

Nine Arab militants held, may be expelled

By YEHUDA LITANI
Jerusalem Post Reporter

Nine Palestinian militants from the territories known for their links with hard-line Palestinian organizations were arrested yesterday. Five of them had been released from Israeli jails in the 1985 prisoner swap with Ahmed Jibril's Popular

Front for the Liberation of Palestine - GC. Palestinian sources in East Jerusalem last night expressed fear that the nine would be deported. The sources added that "this is possibly the firm Israeli answer to the American request not to start a new wave of deportations from the territories." They also added that Israel had chosen to pick

up well-known trouble-makers with established records of terrorist and incitement activities. Such records, they said, would make it easier for Israel to explain the deportations - if carried out. Israeli authorities acknowledged the arrests but refused to confirm whether they intended to deport the nine detainees.

Israel rejects U.S. stand on expulsions

By MENACHEM SHALEV
and ASHER WALLFISH
Jerusalem Post Reporters

Israel yesterday firmly rejected U.S. demands that no Palestinians arrested for their role in the recent disturbances be deported.

Prime Minister Shamir said that Israel "thanks" the U.S. for its "advice," but "we will act as we judge best."

Shamir stressed: "There will be deportations." But he declined to specify the timing or the scope of the move.

Defence Minister Rabin, speaking after a meeting of the Knesset Foreign Affairs and Defence Committee, said: "The U.S. has expressed its opposition to administrative detentions and deportations many times. It is not a new position. We have used deportations in the past and we will use them in the future."

On Monday, Rabin conveyed this

position to U.S. Ambassador Thomas Pickering.

Well-placed sources said last night that they do not expect a serious rift with the U.S. if Israel goes ahead with the deportations. The sources said that the American reaction would depend on the scope of the deportations and on American evaluation of the "record" of the individual activists slated for expulsion.

In an official Foreign Ministry statement, spokesman Ehud Gol said Israel is working to calm the situation in the territories and will continue to use the "legal measures" at its disposal.

The deportation issue may be raised in a meeting of the inner cabinet today, although government sources say that the final decision rests with Rabin. The five Likud members of the inner cabinet are expected to support deportation. Foreign Minister Peres is not expected to disagree with Rabin, who supports the expulsions.

The official U.S. request not to deport Palestinians was conveyed on Monday by Deputy Assistant Secretary of State Philip Wilcox to Israel's minister in Washington, Oded Eran.

Wilcox said deportations would have a negative effect on Israel's image abroad and on efforts to bring calm to the territories.

Officials in Jerusalem countered yesterday that the disturbances had also damaged Israel's image, and that deportations, which would bring calm, would help to remove the issue from the agenda of the foreign media.

"The key is to achieve quiet," an official said, "and the Americans are not reading the map accurately."

In the Foreign Affairs and Defence Committee discussion with Rabin, MKs made the following points:

Ehud Olmert (Likud): "The U.S. is not entitled to intervene in an (Continued on back page)

West Bank lawyers boycott military courts

By BERNARD JOSEPHS
Jerusalem Post Reporter

Lawyers defending West Bank Arabs arrested during the riots in the territories, last night decided to boycott the controversial quick justice hearings at military courts.

"They described the proceedings as 'humiliating and illegal' and declared that they would refuse to take part in them. 'By working on these cases we are granting legitimacy to what the authorities are doing,' said Jerusalem attorney Jawad Bouhas, one of 15 lawyers who attended a meeting at which the boycott was announced.

Defence attorneys in Gaza have been boycotting the military trials for over a week, complaining that the speed with which they are being conducted makes an adequate defence impossible.

But a military source said yesterday that despite the enormous case load and the need for quick progress "all legal proceedings are adhered to in the letter."

The lawyers representing West Bank defendants complained that they have no chance to see their clients before they are brought before the military judge and that, in such circumstances, defendants might just as well be without lawyers.

Said Bouhas: "We are sure that all the other attorneys involved in such cases in the West Bank will support us. Our aim is a total boycott of

these illegal hearings. The law says that a defendant has the right to see a lawyer and to prepare a case. This is being denied."

The attorney, who has been defending Palestinians before the military court in Nablus, said that in many instances he had not even known where his clients had been detained.

"They want us to answer the charges without any preparation or with hardly a chance to talk to those we are supposed to defend. And after resumed hearings little time is allowed for preparation before the full trial. In Nablus on Monday the judge allowed one day and in Hebron yesterday he allowed two days."

Another lawyer, Lea Tsemel, said it had been a difficult decision to boycott the trials. But she went on: "We have the feeling that our presence in court makes little difference for defendants."

"We try to be of help. But when you make a speech for an hour on behalf of a client against whom there is no evidence and who has to take a matriculation exam in a few days, and still he is kept in custody, you start to feel 'why should I do it?'"

Meanwhile, security sources said yesterday that in the past two weeks a number of youths were arrested for a series of incidents in Jerusalem and the West Bank.

Among other things, they are sus-

pected of being responsible for attacks on police stations in Palestinian refugee camps, the throwing of stones and petrol bombs at Israeli vehicles, the burning of a restaurant in East Talpiot, riots in the Jerusalem suburbs of A-Tur and Beit Safa and in East Jerusalem.

Bradley Burston adds from Gaza: The accelerated pace of the trials of detainees arrested during the recent wave of unrest here was stepped up even further yesterday, as 70 defendants appeared before military tribunals, compared with 23 the day before.

The majority of defendants pleaded guilty to charges of throwing stones and disturbing the peace, and were sentenced to prison terms of up to six months, in addition to fines of NIS 500-1,000.

Most were also sentenced to probationary periods of several years. The trials of the few defendants who pleaded not guilty are to continue.

The defendants, ranging in age from 17 to 30, were brought in IDF jeeps to the central Gaza City courthouse from the Anzar 2 detention camp on the Gaza coast, then returned to the camp after their hearings.

Local defence attorneys continued their week-long boycott of the military court trials yesterday, stating that the speed of the trials made

it impossible to prepare adequate defences.

The attorneys also contended that defendants had been forced to plead guilty, and that the judges had refused to note in the court records what the attorneys said were "marks of beatings inflicted by IDF soldiers, both during the demonstrations and at Anzar 2."

Military court officials have rejected the attorneys' claims, saying that current trial procedures conform to the accepted standards of military jurisprudence. The accelerated trials are actually in the defendants' interest, the officials added, as detainees would otherwise have to wait long periods in detention before trial.

A third military court is expected to go into operation here later this week.

Soldier stabbed

Jerusalem Post Reporter

A soldier was stabbed and slightly wounded yesterday in Nablus, and the Palestinian youth who attacked him was injured when other soldiers fired rubber bullets.

The youth attacked the soldier while he was on patrol with a group of Nahal troops in the West Bank town. Members of the patrol fired at the attacker, who suffered moderate injuries. Both the wounded soldier and the youth were taken to Sheba Hospital at Tel Hashomer.

Romania wants to ship food and medicine to territories

By MENACHEM SHALEV
Post Diplomatic Correspondent

The government of Romania, which only a few weeks ago battled thousands of angry demonstrators who took to the streets to protest against food and energy shortages, has asked Israel for permission to ship food and medicine to the residents of the West Bank and Gaza.

The Romanian request was forwarded from Bucharest via top-level diplomatic channels. Romanian officials said they were responding to a plea from the PLO calling on all countries to lend humanitarian assistance to residents of the territories following the recent unrest.

The Romanians emphasized that they would like to comply with the

PLO's request by shipping food and medicine to the territories, but would do so only with Israeli permission.

Wide-scale riots broke out in Romania last month, during which several Romanian militiamen were reportedly killed. At a meeting of the Romanian Communist Party two weeks ago, President Nicolae Ceausescu acknowledged faults in the system and promised reforms which would end the food shortages.

The Foreign Ministry here is expected to reject the Romanian request outright. Romanian officials in Bucharest have been told by Israeli representatives that there are no food shortages in the territories and that they have been taken in by a PLO propaganda ploy.

No help for Nissim from Shamir

By AVI TEMKIN
Jerusalem Post Reporter

Finance Minister Moshe Nissim met yesterday with Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir in an effort to obtain the premier's help in getting the budget through the cabinet. But apart from expressing his support for Nissim, there was very little Shamir could offer in the way of concrete help.

He told Nissim he would try to persuade Minister-without-Portfolio Yitzhak Moda'i and Industry Minister Ariel Sharon to end their opposition to the budget proposals, but he could not promise him any success.

Nissim and Shamir attacked the Labour ministers, whom they accused of irresponsibility by acting as a faction on the budget issue. Labour ministers have refused to support the budget so long as no solution to the dispute over the budgets of the health and education minis-

tries is found. In addition, they demand the extension by at least one more year of the 10 per cent surtax on the largest income earners. The surtax is due to expire tomorrow, December 31.

Economics Minister Gad Ya'acobi said yesterday that Nissim should "get down from the high tree he climbed up" and agree to prolong the surtax. As to Nissim's argument that the government promised that the surtax would be imposed for only one year, Ya'acobi said that a similar promise was made regarding the taxation of children's allowances, and that the Treasury nevertheless wants to continue taxing them in 1988. The government had also promised to give free education to three- and four-year-olds, he said.

"Why should these promises be less important than the one about the surtax made to the 12,000 richest families in Israel?" Ya'acobi asked.

Shamir: Israel knows how to look after itself

By ELAINE RUTH FLETCHER
Jerusalem Post Reporter

Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir yesterday rebuffed U.S. demands that Israel not deport Palestinian riot leaders by saying "Israel knows how to defend its peace and security."

During a visit to the Arab village of Abu Ghosh, the premier said, "We appreciate the American advice, but will act in accordance with our own understanding."

He said that last week's strike in Israeli Arab communities had been sparked by "extremist and irresponsible" elements who tried to "hark cooperation and create an artificial conflict between the State of Israel and its Arab citizens."

Israeli Arabs "must know they have to separate themselves from these tendencies," Shamir said. But he added that most Arab citizens "feel now as they have always felt, that their future is linked to the State of Israel. I hope and believe that such events will not be repeated and that we will continue on a pattern of peaceful coexistence."

The visit to Abu Ghosh was a response to the unrest in Israeli-Arab communities, and specifically to last week's one-day strike.

Some 200 adults and schoolchildren of the village turned out to welcome Shamir, the first prime minister to visit Abu Ghosh since the establishment of the state.

Standing under half a dozen Israeli flags, onlookers described Shamir's visit as a well-timed mark of "respect and honour." And they hotly denied reports that local schoolchildren had also demonstrated and thrown stones during last week's Israeli Arab strike, saying the reports were exaggerated by the media.

"It was just a few kids kicking up stones in the air," said one 16-year-old youth who claimed he would vote for Shamir.

Shamir also said he understood from villagers that the incidents were sparked by "media provocation."

The prime minister said that going to Abu Ghosh was like paying a "family visit" to a place full of memories and meaning.

"Abu Ghosh was a symbol of friendship and unity between Jews and Arabs before the establishment of the state," he said, referring to the village's role in aiding members of the Haganah and Lehi organizations. (Continued on back page)



Premier Shamir meets Abu Ghosh mukhtar Haj Mussa Abu Ghosh in the village yesterday. (Arzi, Media)

U.S. pressing hard

ANALYSIS
Hirsh Goodman

American pressure on Israel to refrain from deportations did not begin with Monday's formal demand. Last week, immediately after Defence Minister Rabin outlined his policies for the territories, the Americans made it clear that deportations, in these volatile times, would be a mistake.

Though the first American message came as a "suggestion," and was relayed unofficially, it was clear that the administration intended to have its advice taken seriously. That Israel has, until now, held back from deporting Palestinian activists, shows that it was.

Behind the American position were several concerns:

First, neither Egypt nor Jordan could possibly accept the deportees, and sending them to Lebanon would, in the American assessment, serve only to bolster the PLO.

Moreover, Jordanian, Saudi and Egyptian messages to Washington made it clear that if the situation continued to deteriorate, the administration could find itself in the uncomfortable position of having to choose between its Arab allies and Israel.

That problem already arose last week during the Security Council debate on censuring Israel's policy in the territories. And it was thought that the U.S. would face the same hard choice if Israel were to deport large numbers of Palestinians, given the media interest in such a move would generate - especially in the Arab world, where interviews with

the deportees would stir passions.

Deportations would make it impossible for Egypt - already under considerable Arab pressure to take action against Israel - to do nothing.

Further, deportations would jeopardize what little remained of Jordan's willingness to deal with Israel following the failure to hold an international conference, and would place Jordan in an untenable position in the territories.

Because the issue has become so diplomatically sensitive, it has been referred to the politicians, with the security organizations limiting themselves to providing a list of those they believe should be deported.

But if the political leaders go ahead and deport Palestinians, even to Lebanon, they will incur the wrath of the Americans and Egyptians. If they do not, they will give the impression of weakness. Even worse, they will be telling the inhabitants of the territories that Israel is susceptible to American pressure.

America's decision to turn its informal suggestions into a formal diplomatic gesture on Monday was in direct response to reports that Israeli decision-makers have come down in favour of deporting a limited number of particularly undesirable persons.



Michel As'ad Sabbah

(Safieh, Media)

Nazareth delighted with nomination of patriarch

By DAVID RUDGE
Jerusalem Post Reporter

NAZARETH - The Roman Catholic community here yesterday was abuzz with rumours that the nomination of a Palestinian Arab to the office of Latin patriarch of Jerusalem may herald a visit by the pope to the Holy Land.

The speculation was strongest among the scores of people who congregated inside the family home of Michel As'ad Sabbah, who has been nominated by the pope to take over the prestigious office of patriarch.

They came to the spacious and tastefully-furnished hillside house near St. Joseph's school to pay their respects to Sabbah's 87-year-old mother and his brothers and sisters.

His two brothers, Aziz and Toufik, were reticent about speaking for fear that their joy might be premature. They said they would prefer to wait until Michel was ordained before speaking of their feelings.

Sabbah's mother, who proudly posed with a picture of her priestly son, said she could not wait for him to be confirmed as patriarch. Added his married sister Hanech Korzom: "We are all very proud of him."

Her words were echoed by the widow of Sabbah's eldest brother Ibrahim who died of a heart attack some 20 years ago. "I wish my husband was here to see this day. He had always dreamed of such a thing," she said.

Awad Abu Simi, a leading member of the 6,000-strong Roman Catholic community in and around Nazareth, was among the guests who poured into the family's home

yesterday and were served with cups of coffee and baklava oriental sweets reserved for festive occasions.

"We are all delighted. This is the best present that the pope could have given us for Christmas and the New Year, not just for the Catholics in Nazareth, but for those in the whole Middle East," said Abu Simi.

"We see this as a great step forward and it has raised our hopes that this will pave the way for a visit by the pope to Israel."

A relative of Sabbah, Samir Abu Nassar, is helping to arrange for members of the family, including Sabbah's mother, to travel to Rome to witness the ordination. They hope to meet with the pope after the ceremony in the Vatican.

Bishop of Nazareth Hanna Kaldany also expressed his delight at Sabbah's nomination. "Everything that comes from the pope and the Holy See is accepted with pleasure and complete obedience. I am very happy to see that one of our people, from Nazareth, has been nominated by the pope to be the Latin patriarch of Jerusalem," he said.

Asked about the rumours of a papal visit, Kaldany, who is 70, said he did not know anything about them. He is due to attend a reception at the home of President Herzog together with other Christian religious leaders to mark the Christmas and New Year holidays.

Meanwhile, the Catholic community in the town continued to celebrate what they described as the pope's "courageous gesture" in nominating a Palestinian Arab as Latin patriarch of Jerusalem.

Arkansas man charged after Xmas massacre

RUSSELLVILLE, Arkansas (Reuter) - The death toll in a Christmas holiday massacre here rose to 16 yesterday when police found seven more bodies in a grave and the bodies of two children in the trunks of abandoned cars.

Police said 14 of the victims were members of the family of former air force sergeant Gene Simmons, who has been charged with the shooting deaths of two co-workers.

The bodies of the latest victims were found near Simmons's home where police on Monday had discovered the bodies of five family members.

Police said although Simmons had been charged with only two murders so far he was suspected of involvement in all 16 deaths.

Police warrant officer Edie Deal said the shooting spree apparently started just before Christmas.

"The Christmas tree was up and all the presents were around it. The cold weather has made it difficult to

pinpoint the time of death, but all indications are it was before Christmas," she said.

Police said on Monday that Simmons went on a shooting spree, killing two former co-workers and wounding four others before surrendering. Shortly after, officers went to his home where they found five bodies.

They were tentatively identified as Simmons's son and daughter and their spouses, and a six-year-old child, believed to be his granddaughter. The adults had been shot in the head. The child had been smothered.

Pope County sheriff said Simmons had refused to speak to officers. "He would not even open his mouth to us," he said. Simmons maintained his silence in court yesterday when he was charged with the murders of 24-year-old divorcee Kathy Kendrick and firefighter James Chaffin, 33.

Monday's violence began about 10:15 a.m. when Simmons walked into the law offices of Richard Peel carrying two .22 calibre pistols and shot Kendrick, who worked as a receptionist there, in the head.

Kendrick, who died later of her wounds, had filed a sexual harassment complaint against Simmons last year when they both worked at a trucking company. The complaint led to Simmons's dismissal.

Simmons then went to the offices of the Taylor Oil Company where, police said, he killed Chaffin, who worked there part-time. He then went to the Sinclair mini-mart, where he shot two clerks, David Sawyer, 38, and Roberta Woolery, 46.

Simmons surrendered to police about 30 minutes after the first shooting.

Police launched a major search for other victims when they learned other members of Simmons's family were in the area. The search revealed the seven bodies in one grave and the bodies of the two children.



Gene Simmons is lead away by a policeman after being arrested in Russellville, Arkansas on Monday. (Reuter)

The weather
at major
Swissair
destinations

	20.12.87	MIN.	MAX.	
AMSTERDAM	8	11	12	Cloudy
BRUSSELS	2	11	12	Cloudy
BUENOS AIRES	17	25	27	Cloudy
CHICAGO	-6	21	28	Cloudy
COPENHAGEN	7	10	12	Cloudy
FRANKFURT	7	10	12	Cloudy
GENEVA	-1	21	27	Cloudy
HELSINKI	-10	14	27	Clear
ROME	21	27	27	Cloudy
STUTTGART	11	25	27	Cloudy
VIENNA	7	10	12	Cloudy
ZURICH	10	19	20	Cloudy

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THE WEATHER

FORECAST: Partly cloudy in the morning,
local showers.

	Yesterday's	Yesterday's	Today's
	Humidity	Min-Max	Max
Jerusalem	88	5-9	10
Golan	61	2-6	8
Nahariya	92	-12	7
Safed	92	2-6	7
Haifa Port	58	8-16	16
Tiberias	75	5-14	15
Nazareth	77	-	-
Afula	77	5-16	16
Shomron	79	4-11	12
Tel Aviv	76	9-14	15
B-G Airport	70	7-13	14
Jericho	78	6-15	16
Gaza	62	8-15	16
Beersheba	56	5-14	15
Eilat	34	6-19	20

SOCIAL & PERSONAL

There will be a Rotary Ladies' Night at Beit Belgia, on the Givat Ram campus of the Hebrew University, Jerusalem, at 7:45 tonight. The guest speaker will be Gideon Raphael, former director-general of the Foreign Ministry.

A memorial foundation, named after the late Pinhas Riklas, has been established at Bar-Ilan University by Arie Genger, Richard Grassgreen and Pery Mendel. At a reception at the university, held in the presence of the chancellor, president, director-general, and other personalities, Genger, the Israeli entrepreneur who initiated the project, outlined the purpose of the foundation: to advance unique research in Hebrew law and Judaism in the spirit of the Jewish tradition and heritage by providing prizes for excellence in these fields.

Shamir invokes
status quo over
ban on women
on TA panel

By GREER FAY CASHMAN
Jerusalem Post Reporter

Prime Minister Shamir yesterday rejected a demand that he overturn the Tel Aviv city council's decision to ban women from the committee that will select the city's Ashkenazi chief rabbi.

Health Minister Shoshana Arbeli-Almosino had demanded that Shamir take action as acting interior minister to cancel the city's decision.

In a letter to Arbeli-Almosino yesterday, Shamir said he fully supported women's rights, but refused to cancel the ban on women on the Tel Aviv panel.

Invoking the "status quo" on religious issues, Shamir noted that the Tel Aviv Municipality's decision follows an established precedent in Tel Aviv and elsewhere, and must be honoured as such.

Shamir said there was no intention to injure the dignity and rights of women.

On Monday, Shamir told a delegation representing the forum of women's organizations that he "completely supports the representation of women in all fields."

It was an injustice that half of the population was not involved in all fields, Shamir declared.

Lahat calls for equal rights for Arabs
at swimming pool dedication ceremony

By GREER FAY CASHMAN
Jerusalem Post Reporter

TEL AVIV - Mayor Shlomo Lahat yesterday used the dedication of a swimming pool to make a plea for

Army denies it mistreated
Palestinians jailed in unrest

By BERNARD JOSEPHS
Jerusalem Post Reporter

HEBRON - The army last night denied allegations that it has mistreated Palestinians who were arrested during the disturbances.

Defence attorney Felicia Langer charged in military court here yesterday that Palestinians were being kept in wretched conditions and were subjected to harassment, humiliation and beatings at a prison camp near here.

The army responded that detainees at the Dahariya camp were living in the same conditions as jailed soldiers, and were not physically abused.

Langer told the court that the conditions at Dahariya are "shameful." She called on the judge, Rav

Seren David Eldor, to visit the camp. He replied that he would pass on her remarks to the appropriate authorities and ask them to put things right, if necessary.

After the hearing, Langer, who was defending an 18-year-old Palestinian charged with throwing stones at a bus, said that, though she had not visited Dahariya herself, she had sworn statements attesting to the "inhuman" conditions at the detention centre.

She went on: "There is too little food, there is overcrowding, and there are no sanitary or washing facilities. The prisoners are constantly harassed and cursed and from time to time they are beaten. They are also forced to sit in humiliating positions."

A military source said last night that the allegations were false. All the detainees at Dahariya were housed in permanent buildings and were not exposed to the elements. "They have the same conditions as IDF men who are incarcerated for one reason or another - no better and no worse."

The source said that special care had been taken to instill in the guards the realization that it was "absolutely necessary" to maintain the human dignity of the prisoners.

Langer complained that prisoners awaiting trial in the court's detention room were forced to adopt a crouching position with their foreheads touching the wall.

(Continued on back page)

Netanyahu: Deaths in areas aid
PLO in efforts to prevent peace

By LEA LEVAVI
Jerusalem Post Reporter

RAMAT GAN - Fresh bodies - even if they are of Arab children - are exactly what the PLO wants in order to prevent a peace settlement, Israel's UN Ambassador Binyamin Netanyahu told reporters after a lecture at Bar-Ilan University yesterday.

Asked whether he was implying that the PLO had deliberately planned the killing of Arab children, he said that while there may have been spontaneous elements in the demonstrations and riots they would never have been so violent nor lasted so long if there hadn't been organization.

"Masked PLO operatives went into schools and forced boys and

girls out into the streets. Once you create such a situation, the rest can be spontaneous."

The PLO has three good reasons for not wanting progress towards peace, he said. They want to destroy Israel (not just to create a Palestinian state in the territories), they have access to hundreds of millions of dollars and don't want to lose a "good business," and they know that anyone who moves outside the circle of terror is putting his own life in danger.

"If the American criticism of Israel is designed to get the peace process moving, that's not a good way to do it because exactly the opposite will be achieved. The argument you hear is that violence and terrorism result from lack of progress towards peace, but there can be no progress

towards peace in an atmosphere of violence and terrorism."

He said that the responsibility for keeping order in the territories is Israel's alone and that it will not countenance any interference by the UN or anyone else. "I don't think we are alone in that; no country would allow it."

Those who say deportations would be a violation of international law "forget that the Geneva Convention was formulated against the background of World War II, when mass populations were deported and displaced. Here, we are talking about deporting a few individuals."

Netanyahu refused to say whether he plans to be on the Likud Knesset list, saying that he would speak on that subject only after his tour of duty at the UN ends in September.



Ganchra Sabbah, centre, mother of Michel Sabbah, with his sisters Alice Sabbah Haik, left, and Haneleh Korzom, right.

(C. Nutkiewicz, Media)

Interview with Michel Asa'ad Sabbah

'A very delicate responsibility'

By DAVID RUDGE
Jerusalem Post Reporter

NAZARETH - Michel Asa'ad Sabbah expressed delight and humility yesterday at being nominated by Pope John Paul II to become the new Latin patriarch of Jerusalem.

In a telephone interview with *The Jerusalem Post* hours before his departure for Rome last night, Sabbah described his appointment as "a very heavy and delicate responsibility."

The 54-year-old priest, who currently holds the title of Canon of the Holy Sepulchre of Amman, and who is president of the Catholic University of Bethlehem, is due to be ordained a bishop by the pope at the Vatican on January 6. He will then be confirmed as Latin patriarch of Jerusalem.

He is the first Palestinian to be appointed to the prestigious office since the patriarchate was established more than 800 years ago.

Sabbah, who was in Jerusalem yesterday making last-minute preparations for his trip, said he had

been informed of his nomination by the apostolic delegate in Jerusalem. Did he feel he was following in the footsteps of Christ?

"The first apostles were also local people," declared Sabbah. "Jesus himself was born here. He taught and preached the Gospel in the Holy Land. I follow his teachings and lessons," he said.

Sabbah was born in Nazareth, the town where Christ was raised and from which he became known as "Jesus of Nazareth" or "The Nazarene."

"I feel very excited because I'm from the same town, as well as the same country, that Jesus was," said Sabbah.

"I'm charged, through my office, to bring his [Christ's] teachings and understanding to the area and his [Christ's] followers here."

"I trust and pray that with the grace of God and the collaboration of the local people, I will be able to fulfil this task and live up to the hopes and wishes of the people themselves," he said.

Sabbah, who left Palestine in 1943, holds Jordanian citizenship and travels on a Jordanian passport. He also has a *laissez passer* to facilitate his trips to and from Israel.

According to reliable sources, he will be granted diplomatic status by the Israeli authorities after becoming patriarch.

His appointment comes after years of pressure by Palestinians for a patriarch of Arab origin. Had Sabbah been surprised by his nomination?

"The pope and the Vatican have a policy to appoint local people where possible. I think this was one of the reasons I was chosen to be patriarch and pastor of the people here in my own country," he said.

Sabbah is to replace Italian Giacomo Guiseppe Beltritti, 77, who recently retired because of his age.

Did the patriarch-designate plan to implement any changes? "I intend to wait and observe what has been done and assess what can be done in the future," he replied.

Sheftel asks to take stand himself
on final day of defence testimony

Demjanjuk as a truck driver for the U.S. army in Germany.

By ERNIE MEYER
Jerusalem Post Reporter

As the hearing of defence witnesses came to an end yesterday, there was a minor sensation when it was suggested that defence counsel Yoram Sheftel might be called to the witness stand himself. To switch from counsel to witness, Sheftel would have to stop representing his client, John Demjanjuk.

The build-up to this climax was long and centred on the photo of the accused in the uniform of a policeman at the Landshtut DP camp in 1946.

The photo had been entered into evidence on November 17 (and was printed in *The Jerusalem Post* the next day), during the testimony of Dutch experimental psychologist Willem Wagenaar. It had been found by Demjanjuk's daughter Lydia in the attic of her parents' home, and the accused had said that he forgot that it existed. The defence, through the testimony of memory expert Wagenaar, tried to show that Demjanjuk was apt to forget. This would go a long way towards explaining lacunae in his testimony about his war-time experiences, the defence said.

The prosecution had made acceptance of the photo conditional on being allowed to question Demjanjuk about it at a later date. That date came yesterday.

Called to testify, Demjanjuk told his counsel John Gill that the photo had been taken at the Feldafing DP camp near Munich.

Said prosecutor Michael Shaked: "I'm surprised to hear this version. When the picture was originally submitted it was said that it was taken at the Landshtut DP camp in 1946."

Guided by Gill, Demjanjuk then outlined his life in DP camps after the war. This included work at various camps and in cities such as Stuttgart, until he arrived in the Feldafing camp in the spring of 1951.



Demjanjuk as a truck driver for the U.S. army in Germany.

(Harati)

Through a friend who knew the local police chief, he got a job as a policeman at the camp. He held this job for three to five weeks, he said, and was then unemployed. In 1952 he received his visa for the U.S. and emigrated.

Shaked, in cross-examination, asked Demjanjuk why he never mentioned his police job earlier.

Demjanjuk: "I forgot about it." At this stage another "new" photo of the accused was introduced into the trial. It shows him wearing U.S. Army fatigues and leaning on the fender of a U.S. Army truck registered in Regensburg. "It was taken in 1948 or 1949," Demjanjuk said. He added that he had forgotten about the existence of this photo, too. But Shaked reminded him that he had already testified about it at a U.S. hearing in 1984.

Demjanjuk: "True. I mentioned the truck photo. I can't say anything different now."

Following this admission Shaked returned to questions about the photo in police uniform. "When did you tell Mr. Sheftel that it was taken at Landshtut in 1946?"

Demjanjuk: "I never told him that. I was surprised when I saw it in the paper."

Shaked: "But you heard about the photo during Prof. Wagenaar's testimony."

Demjanjuk: "And you heard from the professor that I am liable to forget things."

Demjanjuk then tried to tell Shaked that he had been away from the court and sick in his cell at Ramle when the photo was first shown. But Shaked proved that the accused had been present during all

(Continued on Page Nine)

Kessar's bill
would punish
doctors for
taking bribes

By ASHER WALLFISH
Post Knesset Correspondent

A private member's bill to punish hospital doctors who take bribes to place patients at the top of waiting lists for surgery, got most doctors' representatives up in arms at the Knesset Social Affairs Committee yesterday.

Yisrael Kessar (Alignment), who proposed the legislation and who as Histadrut secretary-general is responsible for Kupat Holim, said the original proposal came from the attorney-general. He charged that doctors demand bribes because they know the patients are utterly dependent on them.

Dr. Ram Yishai, chairman of the Medical Association, said that if the government eliminated "the chase" from the medical services, it would automatically eliminate "grey" medicine.

Dr. Zvi Stern, assistant director of Hadassah Hospital in Ein Kerem, said the bill would mean the closing down of his hospital's "sharap" system of private medical service.

Health Minister Shoshana Arbeli-Almosino replied that the law was not aimed at legal private services, but at bribery under the table to smooth the way for patients with money within the regular non-paying facilities. Prof. Haim Doron, chairman of Kupat Holim, backed the minister's position.

Dr. Shmuel Freedman, a representative of Kupat Holim doctors, claimed that doctors for years have been demanding the formation of a chamber of physicians, comparable to the Bar, with powers to punish doctors who take bribes.

CORRECTION

A military court in Nabulus ordered the investigation of Palestinian lawyer Ibrahim Barghouti on Sunday because he allegedly interfered in a case he was not involved with and not because he told a client to plead not guilty, as reported in yesterday's *Post*.

PM's Office opposes
sending Peres aide to NY

By MENACHEM SHALEV
Post Diplomatic Correspondent

The Prime Minister's Office expressed displeasure yesterday at the decision of the Foreign Ministry's appointments committee to propose the appointment of Uri Savir, bureau chief of Foreign Minister Shimon Peres, as consul-general in New York.

Sources in the Prime Minister's Office voiced opposition to the appointment, citing Savir's close identification with Shimon Peres, and said that the prime minister would discuss the matter with Peres in the near future. But Savir is not expected to veto the appointment of Savir, 35, since he is a full-time ministry employee and so is not considered a political appointee. Instead, Savir is likely to use the appointment as a bargaining chip in his talks with Peres on the appointment of the next ambassador to the UN.

The appointments committee also recommended that Yoav Biran, assistant director-general for North American affairs, replace Yehuda Avner as Israel's ambassador in London. In 1982-83, Biran served for a year as charge d'affaires in

London following the terrorist attack on ambassador Shlomo Argov.

Benny Navon, the ministry's inspector-general, was nominated to replace Yitzhak Ben-Ari as ambassador in Bonn. Navon, who has served as consul-general in Los Angeles and as minister for information in Washington, is also identified with the Labour Party.

Other nominations made yesterday included Ya'akov Keinan for ambassador to Cairo, Shmuel Moyal for ambassador to Nepal, and Nathan Meron for minister in London. The ambassadorial appointments must now be approved by the foreign minister, by a four-man ministerial committee, and by the full cabinet.

Colette Avital, assistant director-general for information, had been regarded as a leading candidate for the New York post, but she withdrew her candidacy while the appointments committee was in session. She claimed that Savir's appointment was "rigged." All the committee members supported Savir, except for the representative of the works committee, who did not participate in the vote.

Jerusalem Electric Company
to get 12-year concession

By ANDY COURT
For The Jerusalem Post

The Arab-owned Jerusalem District Electric Company is about to sign an agreement that will clear the way for the Energy Ministry to award the company a new 12-year concession that excludes the Jewish neighbourhoods recently transferred to the Israel Electric Company.

JDEC and Energy Ministry officials said yesterday that the signing of a power-purchasing and debt-setting agreement between the JDEC and the IEC is imminent, and may even occur today or tomorrow. In a meeting with Energy Minister Moshe Shaleh on Monday, JDEC chairman Hanna Nasser expressed

his readiness to sign.

The JDEC's current 60-year concession, awarded during Mandatory times, expires tomorrow. The company has been faced with a choice of either accepting Israel's limitation of its concession - including the transfer of 30,000 of the JDEC's 105,000 customers to the IEC - or losing the entire concession.

The Jordanian cabinet's decision last week to extend the JDEC's concession for another 60 years gave the JDEC a politically acceptable way out: The company says it has no choice but to work within the limitations Israel has imposed on it, but that it really recognizes Jordan's 60-year extension of its concession, not Israel's 12-year extension.

We share the further sorrow of the Lebanese
at the passing of their Christian and World statesman

CHARLES MALIK

He greatly helped his people and what remains of Lebanon's sanity and freedom, to survive the so-called "civil war" imposed on them by the KGB, the PLO, Nasserists, Syria, Khomeinists and other alien destroyers. His counsel and courage will be sorely missed by his afflicted and world-forsaken people.

Christians Concerned For Lebanon

We share the grief of our colleague

Arthur Goldberg

on the passing of his

Father

Management and Staff
TWA Israel

In deep sorrow
we announce the passing of
our dear

JACOB M. ELBAUM

Families: Makovsky
Elbaum
Halkman
Shane

Our dear

GERHARDT (Gory) GLESINGER

is no more

The funeral will take place today, Wednesday
December 30, 1987, at 1 p.m. at Kibbutz Sarid

Family: Naomi, Ruth
and their families

Obituary Notices
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Western sources say Afghani rebels again seal highway

'Hundreds die trying to lift Khost siege'

ISLAMABAD, Pakistan — Hundreds of Afghan and Soviet troops have been killed in 11 days of fighting aimed at breaking a Moslem guerrilla siege of the city of Khost in southeastern Afghanistan, Western diplomatic sources said Tuesday.

The state-owned Radio Kabul has claimed that the anti-Communist guerrillas have suffered 1,603 dead and that the Gardez-Khost highway had reopened, and was safe for travel. The radio said only seven Afghan troops were killed, while 26 were injured.

But Western diplomats and guer-

rilla sources denied the Kabul claim, and said heavy fighting was raging over the 115 kilometre road.

"Hundreds of dead have been brought to the hospitals in Kabul" from the fighting zone in the week ending Sunday. Medicine and blood plasma are in short supply in Kabul as a result of the heavy casualties in Khost, Western diplomats said.

In Moscow, Foreign Ministry spokesman Gennady Gerasimov said that Afghan government forces advancing on Khost broke through to army units from the beleaguered city yesterday.

But the Soviet spokesman said it would take several more days to open fully the road to Khost from Gardez, which lies to the west, he said.

Some 1,200 mines were being removed each day from the road, he said, adding that although the advancing troops had now joined up with units from Khost, the road would not be opened to traffic until tomorrow.

Western diplomats estimate that as many as 20,000 Soviet troops, including paratroopers, have been

committed to the Khost-area fighting. The city has been under siege or intense guerrilla pressure since 1979, when the Soviets first intervened militarily in Afghanistan. An Afghan-Soviet operation aimed at breaking it began on December 19.

They said the Soviets had made progress at Sataw Kandaw, the initial pass along the mountain road that leads to the plain in which Khost is located, but after what appeared to be a Soviet breakthrough on December 21 and 22, the guerrillas again sealed the road. (AP, AFP)

Refugees threaten suicide rather than return to Iran

DUBAI (Reuters) — A group of Iranians who had threatened to commit suicide rather than return home waited fearfully in Dubai airport yesterday as the authorities prepared to send them back to Iran.

The four men, three women — one seven months pregnant — and a four-year-old child arrived in Dubai from Belgrade, where they had been hauled kicking and screaming onto a Yugoslav airlines flight to the Gulf emirate.

A spokesman for the group told Reuters in Belgrade by telephone the adults had fled Iran five years ago so that the men would escape conscription for the Iran-Iraq war.

They threatened to commit suicide rather than return to the Middle East. But a Dubai immigration official said the authorities were working out details with Iran Air to return them to Iran.

The group's spokesman said in Belgrade they had unsuccessfully sought asylum in Japan, India and Pakistan. Reporters were unable to talk to the group at Dubai airport and officials there would say nothing about their condition.

The eight were deported from Yugoslavia following three days in the Belgrade airport transit lounge after they were found to have false visas for Canada.

IN BRIEF

FOUR PEOPLE were killed in a fire yesterday at a plant producing the rocket booster of the giant MX intercontinental ballistic missile, a spokesman for the Morton Thiokol Rocket Company said. Highly flammable rocket propellant had been loaded into the booster casing at the test centre 30 km west of Brigham City, Utah when a fire erupted, destroying a building housing the rocket, the spokesman said.

TWENTY-EIGHT children were crushed to death in a narrow stairway while running to answer a school assembly bell, the *China Youth News* reported yesterday. The children, most of whom were under 10, crammed on to a single unit stairway on Monday because school authorities had not unlocked the door to another stairway. Some fell and those behind piled on top.

IRAN AIR resumed flights to London yesterday, a week after suspending the service over what was viewed as desecration of its pines by British customs sniffer dogs. Six Iran Air flights to London's Heathrow airport were cancelled in protest at the use of the dogs in cabin searches for drugs and explosives. Dogs are regarded as unclean by devout Moslems.

A BRITISH WOMAN, recognized by the Guinness Book of Records as the world's oldest person, has died aged 114 in a home for the elderly in Wales, officials said yesterday. Guinness says she was the third person on record to have reached the age of 114. According to Guinness, a Japanese man named Shigechiyo Izumi died in February 1986, aged 120 — the greatest authenticated age to which any human has ever lived.

Soviet Soyuz space capsule carrying three cosmonauts, Alexander Alexandrov, Yuri Romanenko and Anatoly Levchenko, parachuted to earth in Soviet central Asia yesterday from the orbiting space station Mir. The Tass news agency reported that they were in good health. Romanenko had been in space for a record total of 326 days, beating the previous record of 237 days also held by a Soviet cosmonaut. The three left the space station after being relieved by Vladimir Titov and Musa Manarov. (Reuters)

'Cory's got pigeonholes stuffed with problems'

By PHILLIP MELCHIOR
MANILA (Reuters) Corruption and injustice, underlying problems of the Philippines, seem set to sour President Corason Aquino's New Year's party.

At a time when she could legitimately be celebrating, political analysts say the intractable problems faced by Aquino may make the turmoil of 1987 seem easy. "Cory herself is now secure, but she's got pigeonholes stuffed with problems that are going to have to be faced, and they are the really hard ones," one senior Western diplomat said.

The major pigeonholes are labelled government corruption, human rights and land reform. The problems are not explosive and they pose no immediate threat to the strengthening grip on power held by the bespectacled, often reticent, widowed mother of five.

But analysts say they are the fundamental problems for any demo-

cratic-minded Philippine government, overshadowing almost two decades of Communist insurgency and the biggest long-term problem of all, a population growing too fast to be helped by even the most optimistic economic growth forecasts.

"Nineteen eighty-seven was a touch and go year for her," Amanda Doronilla, editor of the respected *Manila Chronicle* newspaper, said in an interview. "She's been trying to survive, and very successfully, but survival alone is no longer going to be enough," he added.

Doronilla and other local and foreign analysts say the year of crises has diverted attention away from the country's root problems. The Philippine system remains riddled with corruption, which flourished during the two decades of strongman rule by President Ferdinand Marcos, now exiled.

The powerful family clans that dominate politics and business in the

troubled country are showing signs of re-emerging, undermining Aquino's much praised achievements in restoring democracy.

Despite Aquino's frequent reform promises and glowingly clean personal image, coffee-shop gossip still links graft with members of her own family, who are also accused of increasingly cynical power-broking.

"It's become an embarrassment to her. She would rather forget it," Doronilla said. "She has to buy the loyalty of the military and every mention of human rights creates new tensions."

Written off by commentators at every crisis in her confrontation-ridden administration, Aquino has survived against the odds for almost two years in one of the world's toughest leadership roles.

A year that began on a low note with the massacre by troops of 18 unarmed demonstrators at a protest

outside Malacanang, ended in political triumph with the successful staging in strife-torn Manila of the first Southeast Asian summit meeting in a decade.

In between, she battled crisis after crisis. She successfully traversed three armed rebellions by the military and captured Colonel Gregorio Honasan, the leader of the bloody August mutiny that came nearest to toppling her and provoked months of political turmoil.

But Aquino herself appears to recognize that she has no time to relax. Senior aides this week said they regarded the threat of coup attempts as "practically busted" and had turned their attention instead to corruption. Most analysts believe the ability of the Aquino government to "muddle through" and the lack of a credible alternative leader mean she is likely to keep the tenancy of Malacanang until the end of her six-year term in 1992.



Photograph of hostages Marie-Laure and Virginie Valente issued in Beirut yesterday by the Abu Nidal terror group. (Reuters)

Abu Nidal group said ready to release captive children

BEIRUT (Reuters) — A Palestinian group headed by Abu Nidal said yesterday that it was arranging to release the two young children seized with adults from a yacht in the Mediterranean.

The group's spokesman said in a statement that it had been ordered by its leaders to work on moving Marie-Laure, 5, and Virginie Valente, 4, to France in the nearest possible time to hand them over to their parents.

"Our movement is working with concerned parties to move the two girls to one of the Arab capitals," said the statement, delivered to an international news agency in Beirut. The spokeswoman said the statement was accompanied by a colour photograph of the two girls.

The statement was signed by Wafiq Khatib, who first announced on November 1 that Abu Nidal's command had captured six adults

and two small girls in a sea-borne operation off the Gaza Strip. Khatib said that those captured were Israelis, but Israel said it had no record of them either as residents or visitors. They were later identified in France and Belgium as European Roman Catholics.

The Abu Nidal group said on December 25 that the French mother of the two girls had given birth to another daughter in captivity. It said the 29-year-old Jacqueline Valente and her baby were well. The other captives are Fernand Houckins, his brother Emmanuel, Emmanuel's wife Godelieve Kets, and their two

teen-age children. Belgium says they are Belgian Roman Catholics who lived in Lyon, Paris said that Valente was also a Roman Catholic. Israeli officials have speculated that the guerrillas bungled in capturing a yacht they mistakenly thought to be carrying Jews or Israelis.

Strauss appeals to Soviets about Rust

MOSCOW (Reuters) — Bavarian Premier Franz Josef Strauss appealed to Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev yesterday to shorten the four-year labour camp term of Matthias Rust, the West German pilot who flew a light plane to Red Square.

Strauss made the appeal in a two-and-a-half hour meeting with Gorbachev at the Kremlin. West German embassy spokesman Alexander Allardt said.

Strauss piloted his own eight-seat-

er light plane to Moscow on Monday for three days of talks with Kremlin leaders. His Bavarian Christian Social Union is the most conservative partner in Chancellor Helmut Kohl's coalition government.

His discussions with Gorbachev included the treaty scrapping intermediate-range nuclear missiles signed by Gorbachev and U.S. President Ronald Reagan earlier this month. Allardt said.

Abu Nidal says it executed five for plot

BEIRUT (AP) — The Abu Nidal Palestinian terrorist group claimed on Monday it had executed five persons, including a woman, for involvement in a "plot" against it.

In a typewritten statement delivered to Western news agencies in Moslem West Beirut, the Fatah-Revolutionary Council charged that the five had worked for Jordanian and Israeli intelligence agencies.

It said the purported plot was uncovered on Nov. 6 but gave no details. It also failed to mention where, when and how the executions were carried out. The plot was "premeditated by the intelligence of the Zionist king and the Zionist Mossad service," said the statement.

The statement was accompanied by a photocopy of passport-size headshots of the five, whose leader was said to be Jasser Omar Mustapha al-Dayseeh, code-named Jasser al-Maamoun, who was described as a lieutenant colonel in Jordan's military intelligence branch.

The woman was identified as Raeda Rateb Awdeh, code-named Kasha al-Moghrabi. Mohammed Mahmoud Salmaan Kheirredin, code-named Nour Mahareb, was described as an Israeli agent.

The other two were identified as Mustapha Ibrahim Ali Omran, code-named Abdul Salam Ahmed Saleh, and Khaled Ahmed Abdullah Abou Mohammed, code-named Raed Abdul Aziz.

Abu Nidal, whose real name is Sabry al-Banna, has long topped the terrorist most wanted list in the U.S. and Western Europe. His Libyan-funded group has been blamed for several terrorist attacks in Arab countries and Europe, including the December 1985 massacres at the Rome and Vienna airports in which 17 civilians were killed.

Pranksters make light of Argentina's debt

BUENOS AIRES (Reuters) — Pranksters left dozens of garbage bags stuffed with fake U.S. dollar bills on the steps of Argentina's central bank on Monday as part of a spoof on the country's \$54b. foreign debt.

The pranksters tossed hundreds of the bills — emblazoned with the face of Argentine tango idol Carlos Gardel instead of George Washington — to surprised onlookers in the heart of Buenos Aires' financial district.

"The debt is a fake, so let's pay it with fake dollars," said leaflets passed out by organizers of the event, who had a home-made printing press on hand to churn out the bills.

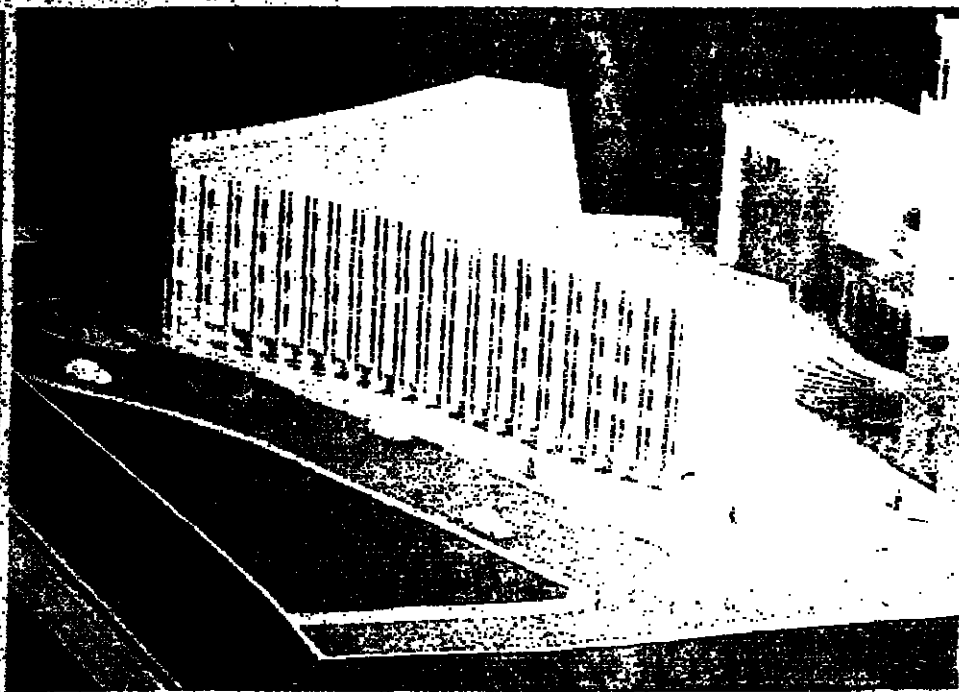
The prank was organized by members of the opposition Peronist Party.

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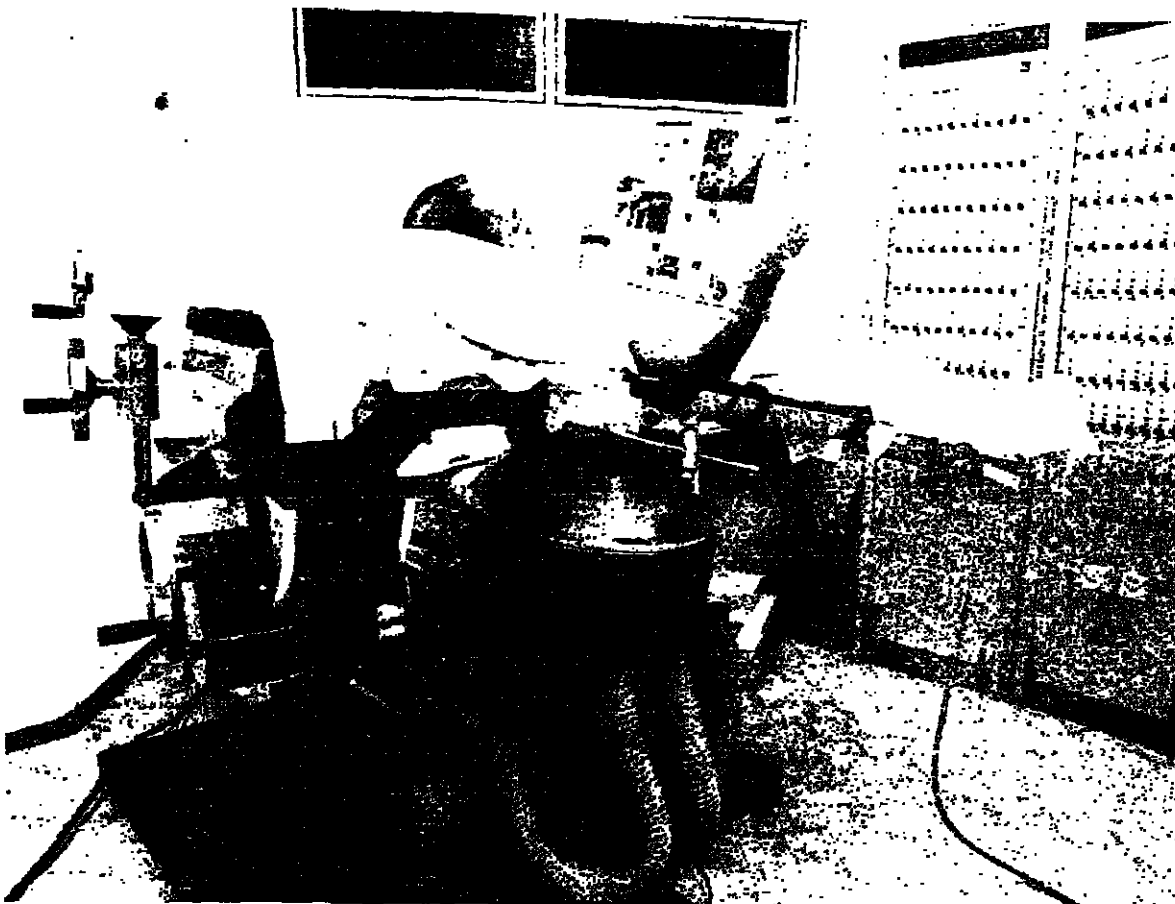
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'A sort of pin-pricking' - the kidney stone smashing machine at Elisha Hospital.

(Ofir)

Private hospital offering hi-tech treatment for kidney stones

By YA'ACOV FRIEDLER
Jerusalem Post Reporter
HAIFA - The latest medical wonder, a computerized ultra-sound machine that painlessly breaks up kidney stones without surgical intervention or anesthetics, has started operating at the Elisha private hospital on Mt. Carmel.

The hospital is also offering "no-queue surgery" for 20 of the most common complaints that patients now have to wait months to have treated in the public health system.

The million dollar machine, made by the Edap company in France, takes from 10 to 60 minutes to rid patients of their kidney stones, on an ambulatory basis, with no need for hospitalization.

While the stones can drive patients up the wall with pain, "all I feel is a sort of pin-pricking," 38-year-old Menashe Zoref, told the press yesterday as the ultra-sound shock waves chipped away the stone in his left kidney. A few minutes after getting off the bed, where patients can read or watch TV while being treated, he urinated most of the pulverized calculi and went home.

When official tests are completed in France, the machine, developed only two years ago, will also be used for gall bladder stones. The treatment costs NIS 2,376, the same amount charged in public hospitals.

The administrative director of the hospital, Ya'acov Almagor, said Elisha was ready to operate the machine round the clock to accommo-

date the several thousand kidney-stone sufferers in Israel who need treatment every year.

He told *The Jerusalem Post* that the hospital was now offering "packages of no-wait operations" in the general surgery, ear, nose and throat, ophthalmology and urology departments, many of which the sick funds are ready to pay for at least in part.

"We can offer only a marginal solution for the queue problem, an extra 40 operations a month in addition to the 200 we already perform, but it should be of some help," he said.

Prices, including VAT, range from NIS 1,620, for a tonsillectomy, to NIS 3,700 for prostate surgery, including eight to 12 days' hospitalization. All auxiliary treatment, and tests, as well as hospitalization costs, are included in the prices.

Elisha hospital was set up 40 years ago by South African investors as a private profit-making company and it has made a profit every year. It ploughs 80 per cent of its profits back into improvements and modernization.

Its latest project is an old age home to be built in the hospital grounds. It is scheduled to be completed in 18 months, and all its 72 places are already fully booked.

Judy Seigel adds:
The Health Ministry's policy regarding the three private hospitals in Israel - Elisha, Herzliya Medical Centre, and Assuta - is to neither discourage nor encourage them, the

ministry spokesman said yesterday.

The expansion of services by the private hospitals "does not signal the bankruptcy of the public health system," the spokesman declared, "but merely indicates that these private institutions are taking advantage of the budgetary problems now being faced by the public hospitals."

A private hospital is limited by ministry policy setting the number of beds in a certain medical specialization in each geographical area. If Elisha wants to perform open-heart surgery, it must first get ministry approval to open more cardiac surgery beds, which are not in short supply in Haifa.

Government hospital doctors who want to "moonlight" in private hospitals must receive authorization from the ministry, and this is granted only according to strict criteria that include whether the doctor is senior enough, whether his private practice comes at the expense of patients in the public hospital, whether he illegally refers patients from the public hospital system for "no-queue service" in his private practice, and whether the doctor reports his income.

The private hospital may charge whatever it wants, "within reason," according to the ministry. Despite the increasing availability of private hospital facilities, the ministry maintains that "the public health system is the answer to our problems. If there were enough money to maintain good service, private institutions would not be necessary."

Aliya rises by a third

Jerusalem Post Staff
A 36 per cent increase in immigration was recorded by Israel this year, the Absorption Ministry announced yesterday.

Most of the increase, from 10,079 last year to 13,658, was due to a significant rise in the number of Soviet Jews who arrived this year. Of the 8,080 Jews who left the Soviet Union, 2,108 reached Israel. In 1986 only 904 Jews were allowed to leave and only a couple of hundred of these reached Israel.

Absorption Minister Ya'acov Tsur expressed his disappointment that only 760 immigrants from South Africa arrived this year, and called on Jewish community leaders there to step up efforts to increase aliya. There was a 35 per cent increase in the number of immigrants from Romania, Argentina and South Africa. Tsur told the Knesset Immigration and Absorption Committee yesterday that immigrants from now on will assume increasing responsibility for their own absorption. Tsur presented his ministry's reforms of the absorption process which are aimed at reducing red tape.

The committee, joined by representatives of the immigrants' associations, heard Tsur explain that from now on it will be up to the olim to decide on arrival if he prefers subsidized rental housing, accommodation at an absorption centre, or a mortgage worth between NIS 65,000 and NIS 87,000 per family, depending on the size of the family and the location.

Meir Shamir, director-general of the Absorption Ministry, said that each family unit would be allocated some NIS 6,000 per head in the first year for living expenses and services.

Tsur said that olim would be encouraged, by means of job and housing incentives, to settle in the development areas and not in the big cities. There would be no administrative attempt whatsoever to force immigrants to go to a specific locality, he promised.

Youth Aliya head slams neglect of Negev settlers

Jerusalem Post Reporter
The government invested \$2,100 for each Jewish resident in the West Bank last year, compared with only \$820 per Jewish resident in the Negev, according to Jewish Agency Youth Aliya head Uri Gordon.

Speaking to students yesterday in Beer Sheva, Gordon blamed his own party, Labour, for not pushing as hard to develop the Negev as the Likud has pushed for the West Bank. He said Labour should set up a group of MKs to act as a lobby for the Negev.

Stories from the Ombudsman's report

Computer dating at the NII

By JEFF BLACK
For The Jerusalem Post
Computer dating took on a new meaning for a woman worker at the National Insurance Institute. She used the institute's computer to run checks on the men she met through personal contact adverts in newspapers. This disturbing abuse of confidential information comes to light in this year's Ombudsman's report.

The checks conducted by the woman took an even more sinister turn, one of the men said in a complaint to the Ombudsman. He said that a week after he stopped seeing the woman, who had told him that she had run a check on him as she did on all her acquaintances, an NII inspector turned up at his previous place of work to question his former colleagues about his business activities.

As the complainant had not filed a request to the NII for any benefits, and did not owe the institute any insurance contributions, he became convinced that the investigation stemmed from the influence of the female employee whom he had stopped seeing. In August 1986, he lodged a complaint with both the

Ombudsman and the NII. An internal NII investigation concluded that, despite the woman's denials, she had used her access to the computer for personal purposes. The investigators did not dismiss the possibility that other employees at the NII branch had also abused their access to the computers.

The investigators also found that the branch manager knew of this abuse, but did not take any action. As for the investigation at the complainant's previous place of work, the internal inquiry found that this was carried out on the initiative of the branch manager. The manager explained that he took pains to help his staff with their personal problems, and that the employee had asked for his help in

gathering information on the complainant. He said that after the employee had told him of her uncertainties concerning her acquaintance and her doubts about their compatibility, he decided on his own to investigate the complainant's circumstances.

The internal inquiry concluded that both the branch manager and the employee had acted without malice and had no intention to harm anyone.

But the NII's director-general took a more serious line and fired the manager and warned the employee. No action was taken against the other workers in the branch suspected of abusing their access to the computer.

The director-general also issued a circular to all members of the staff, warning them that personal use of data banks was a criminal offence.

The Ombudsman acknowledged that the NII was aware of the seriousness of the complaint, but felt that the NII had not taken sufficient action. The Ombudsman therefore submitted all the details of the episode to the attorney-general last May.



Over 40 per cent of the complaints were justified

Jerusalem Post Reporter
More than two out of every five complaints against the government authorities handled by the Public Complaints Commissioner (Ombudsman) during the last Hebrew year were found to be justified. A total of 5,025 complaints were re-

ceived from the public. In 1,405 of the 3,370 complaints that were thoroughly investigated, the taxpayer was found to be the injured party. Not surprisingly, MK David Leshem, chairman of the Knesset Control Committee, holds the record for Knesset members who referred com-

plaints to the Ombudsman on behalf of private citizens. He sent 12 complaints, followed by eight from MK Yair Tishman and six by MK Mordechai Vardi. What is surprising is that only 15 MKs bothered to make any complaints to the Ombudsman.

No place in hostel for violent retarded boy

By JEFF BLACK
The parents of a retarded and often violent adolescent had to wait three years for their son to be admitted to a suitable hostel. During this period, the youth repeatedly attacked his mother, who was too ill to work, and consequently was the family member who spent the most time alone with the youth.

In May 1984, the parents applied to the Tel Aviv Municipality's Social Services Department and to the Labour and Social Affairs Ministry's Service for the Retarded to find an institution for their child. Three years later, their son was still living at home, despite having been placed on a waiting list in December 1984.

In April this year, the parents complained to the Ombudsman. The Service for the Retarded told the Ombudsman that there is a serious shortage of beds in these institutions, and more than 1,000 people are currently on the waiting list.

Last July the ministry's director-general ordered a complete freeze on available places in institutions because of budgetary constraints. The director of the Social Services Department warned Labour and Social Affairs Minister Moshe Katsav of the effects of this ruling, pointing out that in Tel Aviv alone, 50 people, including the complainant's son, were in urgent need of institutionalization because of the dangers they posed to themselves and the people around them.

The Ombudsman found the complainant's appeal justified and on taking up the issue with the ministry, the ministry's director-general announced that a suitable place would be found for the adolescent.

The NIS 9.90 truth about registered mail

By JUDY SIEGEL
Jerusalem Post Reporter
If you think the safest way to send money or valuables is by registered mail, the Ombudsman has news for you. According to the Postal Authority, the only compensation you are entitled to for lost or undelivered letters is NIS 9.90, regardless of the value of the contents.

This was revealed after a woman sent a registered letter containing NIS 200 in cash from the Golan Heights to Galilee. The letter never reached its destination, and, when she complained, she was offered NIS 9.90 in compensation. At this point, she complained to the Ombudsman.

The Communications Ministry's security officer found no evidence that the money had been stolen by a postal worker. The authorities could not account for the loss, but noted that "registration does not cover its being sent from place to place, but only its registration when mailed and when it is handed to the addressee."

The ministry offers compensation only if a letter does not reach its destination, but not if its contents are stolen, since the contents themselves are not registered. The official Postal Guide states that one may not send cash or other valuables except by registered mail, unless their value is below the nominal amount mentioned in the guide. If valuables are discovered in regular mail, the sender will be billed for a registered letter.

Informing the public that they are not fully covered for loss should not be left to small print in a government manual, but must be displayed prominently in all postal branches and agencies, the Ombudsman said.

ITV delaying broadcast of IDF's film on Lebanese war

By GREER FAY CASHMAN
Jerusalem Post Reporter
The controversial film *Ricochets*, slated for screening on Israel Television on January 6, will not be shown on that date because the producer, Shish Koller, is demanding royalties.

The film, also titled *Two Fingers From Sidon*, was produced during the Lebanon war by a unit from the IDF spokesman's office. ITV did not consult Koller when he arranged the screening, and when he learned that his film was to be shown on television, he asked the Defence Ministry for royalties.

ITV has decided to suspend the screening until the matter has been clarified.

Charles Malik - 'He breached the wall of Arab hostility to Israel at the UN'

By DAVID RICHARDSON
Jerusalem Post Reporter
Charles Malik, the former Lebanese foreign minister and president of the UN General Assembly who died in Beirut on Monday, was described in Jerusalem yesterday as the first Arab diplomat "to openly breach the wall of hostility that surrounded Israel at the UN."

Former UN ambassador Gideon Raphael, who developed a close relationship with Malik, said yesterday that Malik was for long the leading moderate Arab statesman.

When the Israeli delegation first took its place in the UN committees it found itself sandwiched between Lebanon and Iraq. Malik, as the Lebanese ambassador and later as foreign minister, sat on Raphael's right.

"He was always courteous and

maintained open contacts with us, much to the discomfort of his Arab colleagues but winning the respect of many at the UN," Raphael recalled.

In July 1982, following the Israeli invasion of Lebanon, Raphael went to Beirut to meet Malik. "On the morning that I was due to see him Israeli aircraft and artillery bombed Palestinian targets in West Beirut and I had to curtail my visit," Raphael said. "Malik later wrote to me, reaffirming his personal commitment to reconciliation and long-range planning for peace."

Malik was recognized by Israeli officials as a leading moderate. An interview with *Al-Nahar* in 1972, in which Malik urged the Arabs to come to terms with Israel because of its overwhelming cultural, scientific and technological superiority, was widely distributed by the Israeli Foreign Ministry for its frankness and far-sightedness.

He was also probably the first Arab diplomat to maintain close contacts with the American Jewish community, in particular with the American Jewish Committee. At the same time he recognized that the U.S. commitment to Israel was based on more than the influence of the so-called "Jewish lobby."

"Whoever imagines that there is a clash of principle between the existence of Israel and the existence of



Charles Malik (Aliza Auerbach)

the Arabs in the Middle East, in a form that favours either the one or the other, only impels America to support Israel against the Arabs," Malik told the Lebanese weekly.

Raphael said that Malik, "a man of wide erudition, impressive intellect and winning courtesy," was at his most formidable in the debates on the question of the internationalization of Jerusalem. "He was a passionate and persuasive standard bearer of the Jerusalem issue, but always inoffensive in his polemic."



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Today, Wednesday, December 30, 1987 - The Eve of 10 Tevet

Yom Hakaddish Haklali

At 7 p.m. sharp, in the Jerusalem Great Synagogue

- ★ Proclamation of "The 50th Year since the Burning of the Synagogues" (Kristallnacht)
- ★ YIZKOR for the Holocaust Martyrs

Proclamation of the 50th year

The President of the State of Israel, Chaim Herzog

Programme: Chief Rabbi of Israel, Rabbi Abraham K. Shapira
Rishon Lezion, Rabbi Mordechai Eliyahu
Minister of Religious Affairs, Zevulun Hammer
Chief Rabbi of Netanya, Rabbi Yisrael M. Lau
Lighting the six candles

Kaddish

Moderator: Mordechai Prisman

Prayer and *hazanut* by the Chief Cantor of the Great Synagogue, Naftali Hershtig, accompanied by the choir.

At the entrance to the synagogue from 5 p.m. onwards, an exhibition of paintings, pictures and documentary features, prepared by Yad Vashem and "80 Jahre Kristallnacht," will be open to the public.

The President will arrive at 7 p.m. sharp!

The exhibition will also be open to the public on Thursday, December 31, 1987, between 9 a.m. and 5 p.m.

The Public is Invited

Emergency regulations in the territories — visiting the sins of the sons on the fathers

Sealed out of their homes

ISMAIL MOHAMMED Ali Roumaneh lives with his family of 10 in a small grimy shack on the fringe of the Askar refugee camp in Nablus.

There is no electricity. There are no cupboards; clothes are piled in cartons or stuffed in sacks on the floor.

The shack is a crazy quilt of uncemented bricks, scrap wood, discarded doors and old sheets of formica and corrugated tin. Sheets of polyethylene are stretched across the roof, but the rain still manages to leak in.

The shack abuts on a five-room house, whose windows and doors have been blocked by bricks. The Hebrew letter *tzadik* is stenciled prominently in black on a few; the bricks are the property of the Israel Defence Forces.

Roumaneh's house was sealed by the army in November 1985 about six weeks after his son Khaled was arrested on suspicion of involvement in terrorism. Khaled was later convicted and sentenced to seven years' imprisonment. His crimes: throwing petrol bombs at the police station in Askar, wounding a policeman in one attack; throwing empty bottles at camp residents suspected of cooperating with the Israeli authorities; and taking part in disturbances and stone-throwing.

A small breach in the brick-up back door tantalizes the Roumanehs with an interior view of their former home. From the front of the shack, the family can see the settlement of Eilon Moreh, perched on a hill in the distance.

Roumaneh, 60, stopped working after a heart attack six years ago. His eldest son works in construction to support the family.

Too poor to rent or buy another home, Roumaneh, his wife, six children, aged 20 through 33, and three grandchildren, aged six, seven and 10, moved into the shack, thrown together using bits from Roumaneh's old job as a junk dealer.

The Roumanehs, one of 46 families whose homes have been completely sealed since the beginning of 1985, asked the West Bank military commander to unseal their house. Their request was rejected.

In October, they petitioned the High Court of Justice against the commander, and a hearing has been set for next Sunday.

Other families have petitioned in the past to have their homes unsealed. Though the military commander has relented in some cases, the court has never ordered a home unsealed.

The same regulation that empowers the commander to seal or demolish the home of a suspected terrorist, also authorizes him to open it after sealing or allow reconstruction after demolition. In either case, the property — confiscated by the army when a sealing or demolition order is issued — reverts to its former owner.

Requests to unseal entire homes or rooms are frequent, say military sources, and "a fair number are granted." The army's attitude to such requests is basically positive, they add.

The statistics, however, are not so encouraging. According to Unrwa — the IDF does not keep statistics — nine rooms were opened in the West Bank between April 1985 and March 1987. None were opened before the release of the terrorist from prison whose crimes led to their closure.

THE RAMPAH family of the Jalazoun refugee camp appealed to the authorities on humanitarian grounds last July to unseal part of their four-room home for their youngest child, who suffers from chronic kidney failure and high blood pressure.

The home was sealed in March after the arrest of the head of the family, Mahmoud Mustafa

Debate over the wisdom and effectiveness of the demolition, and sealing, of the homes of security offenders is never-ending, even in the defence establishment. The measures are as painful as they are controversial, writes RON JOURARD in this article and the one below.



Ismail Roumaneh (Karen Benizian)

Ramahi. Ramahi, an Unrwa worker, was convicted in September of ordering the planting of a bomb under an Egged bus (no one was hurt in the blast) and conspiring to murder a man suspected of cooperating with the Israeli authorities. He was sentenced to five years' imprisonment.

Mrs. Ramahi and her six children lived for several months on the veranda of the sealed home, sheltered by canvas provided by the Red Cross. Blankets, warm winter clothing for the children and hardship rations were provided by Unrwa.

Five-year-old Samah Ramahi was hospitalized in the summer. The family asked the authorities to unseal at least one room and the bathroom or kitchen to provide Samah "proper housing, electricity and running water" to attain the cleanliness needed for daily dialysis. The request was turned down last month, albeit shortly after the family rented a house nearby.

The request was made the day after military authorities barred the family from building another storey atop their sealed home. They had secured the necessary permit from Unrwa, which controls building in West Bank refugee camps, and had half-finished construction.

Aiman Mahmoud Ramahi, 21, the eldest son, now faces charges of contravening the army's sealing order. His trial is due to open in Ramallah military court on February 3.

Asked why it granted the Ramahi family a building permit in spite of the sealing order, Unrwa information officer Bill Lee said the agency is responsible for the welfare of the refugees.

"Though Unrwa does not do anything to provoke the authorities, it does not weigh security considerations in deciding whether to issue a building permit."

TWO BETHLEHEM refugee families petitioned the High Court in July, seeking to compel the military commander to open their homes. Two sons of the Rabba family and one of the Hamidan family were imprisoned in early 1986 for three years each for two bombing attacks and planting several bombs near the homes of West Bank residents they suspected of cooperating with the Israeli authorities. No one was hurt in any of the incidents.

The 15 members of the Rabba family, including a 90-year-old grandmother, lived for more than a year in two Red Cross tents after their five-room home was sealed on a cold and rainy evening in December 1985. Troops who helped evacuate the family's belongings allegedly smashed most of the windows and a porcelain sink.

A few months ago, 11 members of the family moved into a 4x3-metre-square room behind their sealed home, built of concrete blocks and a corrugated tin roof; the parents, a six-month-old baby and a four-year-old son still sleep in a tent.

The 11-member Hamidan family lived in a tent for almost a year before moving into two small rooms built adjoining their five-room home. Mrs. Hamidan, a widow, says that she and some of her children were stung by scorpions during that time. The eldest son, 24, works in construction to support the family.

The Hamidan and Rabba petition was withdrawn the day of the hearing after the military commander filed his response stating that "circumstances have not come into being that would justify the unsealing of the homes." He added: "Not even the suffering of the families can compare to the gravity of the crimes that led to the sealing orders."

Lawyer Felicia Langer says she cancelled the petition for fear of a court precedent that might jeopardize the success of similar petitions in the future.

THE ARMY will not reveal its criteria for weighing a request for unsealing or reconstruction. A former Justice Ministry attorney says that in one case permission was given to rebuild a home after the army became convinced that its owner had no advance knowledge of his brother's terrorist crimes.

Emma Playfair, a volunteer at Al-Haq, a Ramallah-based human rights group, says: "Some people get permission to rebuild one year later, while others are still waiting after 10 years."

"The most painful thing is the uncertainty," she says. "You're torn: you don't know if you should go somewhere else and start over, or wait. There are not even any guidelines by which you can know if your case is a good one."

Last month, the uncertainty and the waiting brought together some 200 people from the West Bank and Gaza Strip, victims of sealing and demolition orders. Contacted personally or responding to notices carried in the Arabic press, they convened in the Al-Hakawati theatre in East Jerusalem with several volunteer lawyers to discuss strategy.

A committee was set up and representatives were chosen from various parts of the West Bank and Gaza Strip. The families plan to campaign in Israel and abroad to arouse public interest in their plight.



Ismail Mohammed Ali Roumaneh and part of his family of 10 stand in front of their shack in the Askar refugee camp in Nablus. The photograph below shows the demolished house in Kalkiya belonging to Mohammed Daoud, suspected murderer of Ofra and Tal Moses. (Photos: Karen Benizian)

No. 119 of the 1945 Emergency Regulations

A Military Commander may by order direct the foreclosure of any house, structure, or land from which he has reason to suspect that any firearm has been illegally discharged, or any bomb, grenade or explosive or incendiary article, illegally thrown, detonated, exploded or otherwise discharged or of any house, structure or land situated in any area, town, village, quarter or street the inhabitants of some of the inhabitants of which he is

satisfied have committed or attempted to commit, or abetted the commission of, or been accessories after the fact to the commission of any offence against these Regulations involving violence or intimidation or any Military Court offence; and when any house, structure or land is forfeited as aforesaid, the Military Government may destroy the house or the structure or anything in or on the house, the structure or the land....

Doubts about demolitions

THE STAIRCASE was still there, littered with debris from a hasty evacuation. A sink was also intact, jutting out from a wall into the emptiness that was once the second floor.

This was virtually all that remained of the Kalkiya home of Mohammed Daoud, the alleged killer of Ofra Moses and her son Tal in a petrol bomb attack in April. Daoud's 85-year-old grandmother, parents, seven brothers and sisters and an aunt were scattered among the homes of relatives.

Daoud's house was ordered demolished this month by the military commander of the West Bank. Although Daoud reportedly confessed, he had not been found guilty yet by a court of law. His family had a few hours to remove their possessions; they had no time to seek an injunction to block the demolition.

The demolition — and sealing — of the homes of suspected Arab terrorists, carried out under Regulation 119 of the 1945 Defence (Emergency) Regulations passed by the British, are intended chiefly as a deterrent in the fight against terror.

"As a matter of principle, even in times of emergency there have to be limits on what you can do in cases of people suspected of grave security offences," asserts a Hebrew University law professor.

"If there was a scourge of theft in Israel, you wouldn't go around cutting off people's arms. Not because it wouldn't be effective as a deterrent, but because you'd object to certain forms of punishment on principle."

"You'd have to make a very strong case for the measure's effectiveness as a deterrent to justify its use," states the professor. "But you could equally argue that it's likely to be counter-effective, that from desperation and resentment, otherwise law-abiding people might be driven to violence after their home was destroyed," he says.

"I can't prove that the demolition of homes has this effect, but my point is that I don't think anyone can prove the opposite. Even without strong moral reasons for objecting to the measure, because its efficacy is in serious doubt, it shouldn't be used," says the professor.

Military sources concede that the professor's view cannot be dismissed out of hand. Since no study has been made, there are always doubts in this matter, they say.

But they note that security personnel who interrogate terrorists learn their "fears and motivations." The people in charge weigh all the views and have concluded that the demolition and sealing of homes is a powerful deterrent, state the sources.

They add that there is a feeling, in recent years especially, that regular criminal proceedings are ineffective as a deterrent: eventually the terrorists are released, even those serving life sentences. Some terrorists even prefer life sentences because it ensures them a "safe place" in prisoner-exchange lists submitted by hostage-holding terror organizations.

THE LEGALITY of demolition and sealing is no less hotly disputed than their efficacy as a deterrent. International law bans the imposition of collec-

tive penalties by an occupying power. Though Israel is party to the international accords containing this ban, the High Court of Justice has ruled that the demolition and sealing of homes does not constitute collective punishment.

In the 1986 case of *Daghlas v. Commander of Judea and Samaria* (the sons of the petitioners had stabbed a Jewish tour guide in Sebastia), the High Court stated that to view the demolition and sealing of homes as a collective penalty "would void the regulation of content, leaving only the possibility of punishing a terrorist who lives alone...."

"The regulation is designed as a deterrent, and by its very nature, the deterrent effect must also impinge on those surrounding the terrorist, particularly those members of his family living with him. He must realize that his abominable acts will not only bring hurt upon himself, but that they will also cause his family great suffering."

"In this respect, the sanction of demolition is no different from imprisonment of the head of the family, the father of small children who are left without a breadwinner. Then too the family members are hurt."

Notes the Hebrew University law professor: "There's a huge difference between sending the father to jail and blowing up the home of his family. If you blow up the home, you're infringing the property rights of the children and other family members — it's almost as if you jailed the whole family."

Military sources point out that under the regulation it doesn't matter who owns the house. Nevertheless, the army does check the ownership rights (though "we don't go to the Land Registry"). The greater the rights of the suspected terrorist, the easier it is to decide on demolition.

If the house is rented there will be great reluctance to blow it up; if it's owned by the suspected terrorist's parents, there will be less reluctance, say the sources. But the more serious the crime, the less weight will be attached to the question of ownership.

A home may be demolished or sealed even if the terrorist never lived there, but such use of the regulation is exceedingly rare. Following the murder of six Jews in Hebron in May 1980, several buildings opposite Beit Hadassah were demolished because one of the killers had hurled several hand-grenades from the roof of one. Later the owners, the Hirbawi family, whose ancestors saved scores of Jews during the 1929 riots, petitioned to the High Court for permission to rebuild. Their application is still pending.

Critics note that the sanction is applied before the suspected terrorist's guilt is proven in court. But military sources emphasize that "strong and solid evidence" is required before the military commander issues a demolition or sealing order. Usually a confession is not enough. The standard of proof applied by the commander, however, is less rigorous than that applied by a court.

Another criticism is that under the regulation persons who may be hurt by the demolition or sealing order have no opportunity to voice their arguments against it. The right of an individual to a fair hearing before action is taken against him

by the authorities is a fundamental legal principle, the critics point out.

THE MILITARY authorities are now in the "final stages" of preparing procedures that will allow the affected persons "a few days" to state their case against the order. But, as the commander of the West Bank asserted last spring in response to a petition by the brothers of the three terrorists convicted of murdering Elisha Amedi in the Old City of Jerusalem in November 1986, a hearing would still be denied in "grave and exceptional" cases.

Since, according to the military sources, it is only in such cases that demolition orders are issued, it would appear that the new procedures will provide no solace to families facing the destruction of their homes. Thus, it seems, a hearing will be denied in those cases where the affected persons have the most to lose.

The sources say, however, that even in the case of a particularly loathsome killing, there may be different levels of involvement — one terrorist may have wielded the knife, for example, while all another may have done was to reconnoitre. Though both are equally guilty of murder in the eyes of the law, they may be treated differently with regard to the new procedures. Indeed, the difference in levels of involvement may also influence the military commander's decision on how to apply Regulation 119 or even whether to apply it at all.

SO FAR this year, five homes have been demolished in the West Bank, including that of Hilar Jaradat, who was convicted of murdering IDF reservist Alexander Arad in September. Eleven homes have been totally sealed and 20 others partially sealed this year, according to Al-Haq, a Ramallah-based human rights group. (The IDF does not keep statistics.)

The 1945 Defence (Emergency) Regulations apply in Israel too — five of the homes sealed or partially sealed this year were in East Jerusalem. Since 1967 some 1,500 houses have been demolished or sealed in the West Bank and Gaza Strip, leaving about 10,000 people homeless.

The regulation was much used during the beginning of the occupation but its use diminished in the late 1970s and early 1980s. It has been used more frequently, however, since 1985, when the cabinet adopted a get-tough policy against terrorism, renewing at the same time the use of deportation and administrative detention in the territories.

Every sealing and demolition order must be approved by the defence minister. In addition, army attorneys scrutinize every order "very carefully" to determine whether it would pass muster in the High Court of Justice. As a rule, no order is issued if there is any doubt, military sources maintain. This is why petitions to the High Court against the orders seldom succeed, they say.

Indeed, Jerusalem lawyer Abed Asali, who defends Palestinians charged with security offences, advises clients not to even bother petitioning. "At most, you can delay the carrying out of the order for a few months."

Palestinian affairs is edited by Yehuda Litani.

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CAD awakening in architects' offices

LISA PERLMAN

IT WAS ONLY a few years ago that Canadian architect W. Millet Salter was head of a small, traditional design office in an Ontario town. He still heads the same small office, but today the eight people who work there are turning out computer-aided designs, changing the face of the office completely.

Architects have not rushed to embrace CAD, but if Millet Salter's experience is any indication of what they have to gain, they may want to look again: a doubling in profits, a halving of the drudgery, and pay rises for all.

"We still work as hard as we used to, but now we are better, faster and more precise. Clients, architects and other employees - everyone wins," Millet Salter said.

He had been invited to Israel to participate in the CAD/CAM (computer-aided design and manufacturing) conference held here earlier this month. There he admitted, "I know nothing about computers. But I sit in wonderment at what they do."

In his own office, bringing in computers "increased the level at which people operated. The computer is a reinforcement, not a replacement, of the human being. Technology has been good for people... Among the basic requirements that led to a complete transformation of our office were commitment and determination."

One sensed that same commitment and determination, and enthusiasm, in Hans-Christian Lischewski, director of CAD resources at a large (100 workers) architectural firm in New York and a lecturer at the Pratt Institute of Fine Arts. He warned of an impending "critical" situation in which scores of architects and draftsmen will find themselves out of work if they do not recognize the importance of including computers as an integral part of their studies.

Israeli university to offer a degree in architecture, has come under criticism for failing to take the "computer factor" into account in its programme. Both architects and students with an interest in CAD have called it a "stumbling block" in this respect, lamenting the fact that CAD studies are not compulsory and the equipment available is "a disgrace." Architect Hillel Even-Ari, of Yaski and Partners, an active member of Itim (the Israeli CAD/CAM association) and the conference's exhibition coordinator, would like to see knowledge of computers as a prerequisite for the course. "When an architect comes out of the Technion, I shouldn't have to teach him the ABC of CAD," he said.

Both Millet Salter and Lischewski offered a message to future architecture graduates: you have to learn to live with computers. And this is the time to adapt, because we're still working with the old tool-box, i.e., pens, erasers and the drafting board.

ADAPTING IS not always easy, and many architects have experienced the "fear" or reluctance to take a high-tech approach that has been evident in other sectors.

In Israel, most architects' offices number no more than about five people; yet even among the large offices, it is estimated that only about half are employing computers in some way.

Yaski's might be called pioneers in the field here. Of the 30 employees of the office, about a third work with CAD. Ya'acov Rechter's busy office is said to be involved in only one CAD project; and Ram Carmi's office, which earlier this year won the Supreme Court design competition, are apparently only at the stage of "thinking" about computers.

Yet, quotes Even-Ari from a study conducted in the U.S. last year, "by 1990, 80 per cent of aec (architecture, engineering and construction) offices will be using CAD."

Indeed, engineers and even builders have taken to computers more readily than many architects. Shrugs Even-Ari: "Architects, as always, are the last." The big firms, of course, have greater access to CAD, he admits.

"For example, Israel Aircraft Industries. They pioneered CAD some dozen years ago. You won't find a drafting board there today. Not because they like computers so much, but because they saw the value of it to the industry. But cars and planes are enormous industries. They could afford to pay the enormous sums, once the managers were convinced it was worth it."

Falling prices and the availability of micros today make CAD more accessible.

For \$10,000 today, he says, one can buy a decent system, for which the benefits are 3:1 and a 50 per cent increase in productivity. In addition, the data can be re-used, as in system building - you design a villa, and at the press of a key, call up the doors and windows for another design.

However, even though it is easier to buy knowledge than to make it yourself, Even-Ari continues:

"In Israel we still have to pay 60 per cent taxes on imported hardware and software. The price of plotters has recently increased by 30 per cent... We are being penalized for 'progress.' If the government wants us to get out of the stone age, they have to help us. In West Germany, for example, the government subsidizes such activities."

Lischewski advised that since the local high-tech industry is no competition for the U.S. or Japan, Israel should concentrate on software. "There is no need for another startup company to develop any new CAD product in architecture."

ARYE KUTZ, also of Yaski's, first used a computer to write his Master's thesis in Japan. Upon his return, he took to CAD like a duck to water. Now, he says, "I don't want to see myself designing without a computer."

New graduate Avner Shahin, who recently tied in a student CAD competition with aeronautics student Guy Shaviv, decided to work with computers for several reasons:

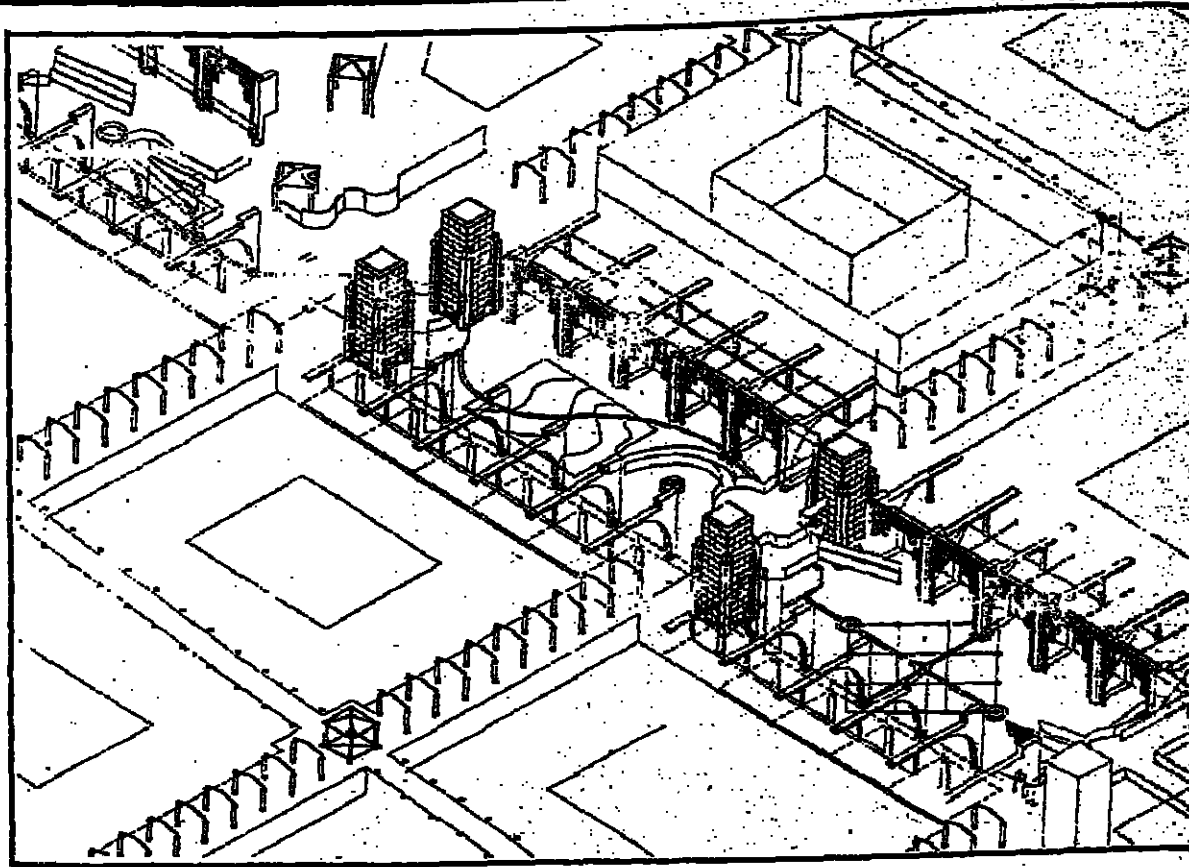
"Changes in the design can be made, and tested, easily. You can design almost until you have to present the plan - drafting time is minutes. And you can use the same data base to show two and three dimensions of the design. The plan I submitted uses different kinds of lines - circles, curves, etc. These are easily executed on the computer, and in construction."

Charlie Yawitz, an architect who also works as a computer consultant, has noticed that companies which bought the first generation of equipment early on are today dissatisfied.

"Those were basic drafting tools for getting lines down on paper; but they can't design, only draw. So the architects are saying, 'OK, this is what the computer can do... I'm not so satisfied.' And since they pay a lot more for the machinery than for the human labour (because draftsmen and architects in Israel are paid so badly), they pull in a draftsman to take over."

"Until now, architects have been buying general-purpose programmes (also used by engineers and aircraft designers). Now it's getting more specialized, architecture itself is being addressed."

When Millet Salter took the high-tech plunge, "some of my peers laughed at me. What they overlooked was the database and expertise accumulated. Now it looks as if some of them may not survive. Adjustments must be made. This is the way forward."



Architecture student Avner Shahin co-won first prize for this design at the CAD conference.

Keeping track of poisons



Judy Siegel-Itzkovich

IF A CHILD swallows a handful of pills and his parents can describe them as small and pink, or drinks unlabelled cleaning material that "came in a blue plastic bottle," poison control experts in any country would have difficulty identifying the drug or poison and treating the patient.

That is, except in Britain, which has introduced a computer programme in three hospitals in and around London that can identify thousands of poisons and drugs from a minimum of information.

Doctors at Israel's National Poison Control Centre at Haifa's Rambam Hospital use a large volume listing all the different household poisons and pills that children might ingest by mistake.

If a parent phones 04/529205 and asks whether a certain cleaning product or drug is poisonous, the expert can tell him if any treatment is necessary and what to do. But if the product is not labelled, the expert is virtually helpless.

But the British pilot computer programme, described in the latest issue of the weekly *New Scientist*, can narrow down the suspected poison from small details, such as a rubbed-out orange label on a blue bottle. If the name on the label is partly obliterated, and only a few letters from the middle of the word remain, the computer's memory can suggest possible names of the substance. Other means of identification include whether it is a liquid or a solid; its smell and its taste.

Once the poison is identified, the computer asks for the child's age, weight and sex, and provides information on what kind of symptoms he or she should be experiencing after swallowing the poison. It next supplies instructions on how to treat

him and, for the record, uses the case to prepare statistics on poisoning in children.

The organizers of the project aim to provide all hospital emergency rooms with personal computers equipped with updated programmes that would advise doctors on poisons. Rambam Hospital and the Health Ministry should take note.

COMPUTERS CAN also be of great assistance to doctors and pharmacists, who can barely keep up with the flood of new drugs being manufactured and imported.

In West Germany, the Society of Radiation and Environmental Research in Neuberger, near Munich, has entered 12,000 different pharmaceutical products on its computer.

The list also contains 2,800 active substances that have been registered individually and in set preparations, together with a list of medicines in which they are found. This is of vital importance, as the computer provides information on the possible dangerous drug interactions that can occur if a patient is taking several at a time.

The computer not only states the threshold doses that cause drug interactions, but also suggests alternative medicines that are available to

treat the condition. A maximum of 10 different drugs can be "fed" simultaneously into the computer, which calculates their possible interactions. For example, if a patient is receiving an anti-coagulant drug to prevent thrombosis and needs a pain-killer as well, aspirin may not be advisable. Aspirin can increase the tendency to bleed, something which seldom occurs, but can be dangerous. The computer names other pain-killers that would not interact badly with the anti-coagulant.

The system has been tested in the Heidenheim district hospital, where staffs quickly learned to cope with it. If the operator really gets stuck, he can fall back on a built-in "help" system. In the next stage, the computer will include indications and counter-indications, as well as side-effects, doses and prices.

TOPSOFT, the Israeli computer software company, says it has opened the first library of educational computer programmes in the country. Instead of buying the rather expensive diskettes, Topsoft established 10 lending centres from Carmel in the north to Eilat in the south, in addition to its central library at its headquarters in Tel Aviv. It hopes to expand the number to 20 before long.

The libraries are part of existing computer supply stores, and Topsoft says they must meet strict criteria of expertise, quality and service. Subscribers to the service have to pay NIS 99 a year for borrowing one diskette at a time; they pay NIS 165 for two, and NIS 225 for three at a time. Every time a diskette is exchanged, the subscriber pays an additional NIS 5 and can keep it for up to a month. For a list of the libraries, call Topsoft at 03-334774.

MUSIC REVIEW

Where has the French charm gone?

work offered. His tempi were much too slow, sound dwindled into a negligible grey pallor, and most of the composer's colouristic effects remained unexploited. Where has all the French charm gone?

Starker's performance meant new hardships. Starker will always be remembered as a great performer of chamber music and a great teacher, but as soloist with an orchestra he

never impressed. His tone was never big enough to assert itself vis-a-vis the orchestral part and now even the little he had in volume vanished. With it vanished dynamical variation, expression and all the other means of interpretation.

"Aggravating matters was his choice: Tchaikovsky's shallow and intolerably hackneyed rondo variations. To listen to this work in a

great performance is extremely trying; with Starker, it meant nothing but boredom and insignificance.

Even Roussel's sparkling Sinfonietta emerged timid and pale. Pailard seemed unable to instill the orchestra with spirit and the joy of music-making, and what we got was only great monotony and colourlessness.

Mozart's Divertimento was a slight improvement on the preceding pieces but at this late stage of the concert, little could be salvaged. Even the usually excellent oboist Oded Pintos sounded dry and monotonous. A wasted evening.

BENJAMIN BAR-AM

ISRAELI CHAMBER ORCHESTRA, Jean-François Paillard conducting with James Starker, viola, and Oded Pintos, oboe (Benjamin Bar-Am). Rameau: Suite from the Baroque Suite, "Les Indes Galantes"; Tchaikovsky: Variations on a Roccoco Theme for Cello and Orchestra; Albert Roussel: Sinfonietta for String Orchestra; Mozart: Divertimento No. 11 in D major.

EVEN WITHOUT knowing what the coming concerts of the Israeli Chamber Orchestra have in store for us, this concert will probably be remembered as one of the most boring of the whole season.

Rameau's "Les Indes Galantes" was never my favourite but Paillard even failed to extract the little

The Jerusalem Post Library - December 1987

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Getting the better of vibrations

Ya'acov Friedler

VIBRATIONS, for most of us, mean either good or bad vibes, and the bad ones make us shudder. But at Popper Technologies Ltd., a kind of factory of ideas in Haifa, they have put both the good and bad vibrations to good use, confounding the experts and generating business.

The factory, which employs 20, half of them engineers, has specialized in vibration equipment confining itself to "a very narrow and specialized profile which has put us into the forefront in the field," general manager Dov Storch told *The Jerusalem Post*.

They have come up with sophisticated machines which have fascinated even the biggest names in the international vibration equipment market.

"Vibration is a physical phenomenon that can be either useful or harmful. We exploit both. The one for making vibration machinery and the other to develop vibration prevention (or damping) devices," Storch explained.

The use of vibration machines for conveying materials is widespread in the foods, chemicals and pharmaceutical industries. But the Popper vibrators not only convey the materials, but screen and separate them according to size or specific weight and dosages.

The extra features they have developed provide the manufacturer with, for instance, granules of exactly the same size and weight while shaking off dust and foreign particles, enhancing the quality of the product even as the materials are conveyed.

The guiding genius behind the sophisticated machines is Dr. Boaz Popper, a mechanical engineer who graduated from the Technion and now teaches a course in advanced design there.

His prolific ideas, translated into machinery, provide miniaturized equipment that handles double the regular quantity of material, measured by weight and size.

For example, a machine with a vibrating tray no larger than 60 by 20 cms. handles five tons of material an hour, as much as a normal machine double its size.

As a demonstration, nails were mixed with sugar. The clever little machine separated them, delivering each material independently, at different speeds. The secret is in the blow each granule gets from the vibrators. The Popper machines also have no trouble handling problem-

atic materials, such as penicillin.

"We have a technological advantage, protected by several dozen patents, that give us a marketing advantage," Storch noted.

Because they build their machines in "three masses," which apparently means a lot to the experts, their base does not vibrate and therefore need not be anchored to the floor. This makes them mobile and of course cheaper to install. They also have the ability to convey materials upwards, up to 15 degrees, which as far as they know, has not been matched elsewhere.

For lack of capital they have not been able to break into the world market on a large scale, though in addition to their domestic sales, their machines have found their way abroad as part of comprehensive systems designed and shipped by turn-key plant makers.

Storch, who has a master's degree in business administration, regrets that the government has not helped domestic manufacturers by obliging, at least government-owned companies, to procure their equipment locally if it is available at competitive price and quality. In the U.S., it is routine for public companies to buy American first, whereas here, the Dead Sea Works, for instance, has installed millions of dollars worth of vibration machinery, all of it imported, Storch noted.

Popper Industries is also at the forefront of the other end of the vibration industry - prevention. It makes both static dampers, essentially a patented design of rubber springs in metal mounts, as well as active or "dynamic balancing" dampers, which through a system of weights and springs create counter vibrations on the same frequency as those to be suppressed, thus neutralizing them.

Components of electronic equipment can be damaged by vibrations and as computers are coming out of their airconditioned rooms into the field, they need shock and vibration dampers ("mounts" in the trade) to keep them working - and in operation longer. With its static mount believed to be the thinnest in the world, Popper is in the business.

Their clients include such major Israeli manufacturers and users as Tadiran, the Air Force, Israel Air-

craft Industries, Elbit, Elscint and Rafael, the armaments development authority.

The company is currently engaged in a \$300,000 project for an American computer manufacturer, which is aimed at extending the computers' life expectancy by at least fourfold by cutting out vibrations. After 18 months of development work, they are now building a prototype.

Storch said that Popper Technologies is able to extend computer life five- or six-fold, by lengthening what is called the "mean time between failures" or MTBF in short.

In a Haifa bakery, three new kneading machines could not be used because the civil engineers who planned the building had not taken the combined force of the vibrations fully into account. The bakery was faced with either abandoning the machines or reconstructing the whole floor. Popper made the dampers that allowed all three to work simultaneously on the existing floor.

For off-road vehicles, whose drivers are subjected to chronic back trouble by shocks and vibrations, Popper has developed a damper that needs only 15 cms. of play to keep the driver steady and healthy. "A conventional spring damper would have had the driver go up and down a full metre and a half while absorbing the shocks," Storch noted.

"Now they want to go out of this world into outer space vibrations. If we could raise \$1 million, we confidently believe we could develop vibration and shock dampers for space ships and stations that would be good well into the next century," Storch ventured.

Though vibration damping may sound like an unimportant detail, Storch pointed out that the Challenger space shuttle ended in disaster not because a multi-million dollar system malfunctioned, but because a gasket broke. The dampers would keep small parts as well as the major systems steady.

"We have the ideas for space generation dampers, but we lack the money to develop them," he said.

Popper, who himself worked for Rafael years ago and has his head full of ideas, is now writing a book on Creative Thinking. His thesis is that while it helps if you're born with the knack, it can be developed, through education and the creation of conducive conditions - like good vibes.

Lawyer does battle with illegal tapers

The high stakes game of pirate cassettes

By KEN SCHACHTER

TEL AVIV — The warning was direct and brutally frank: "I was in prison for murder. I spent five years in Turkey for heroin smuggling. I want to do whatever I want with cassettes. If someone tries to stop me, he may be found in a block of concrete on the beach."

Lawyer Ya'acov Manor recites the words matter-of-factly. As a kind of one-man posse whose client, the Israel Record Federation, has charged him with ridding Israel of pirated audio cassettes, he has had to endure threats, insults and bribe attempts.

So far, no one has actually tried to fit him with cement galoshes, but he recognizes the risk.

"People asked: 'Aren't you afraid? Don't you have a wife and children?'" he said, "If you want to know if I'm afraid: I'm not."

Perhaps Manor isn't afraid, but he's not foolhardy either. He has been accompanied to raids on vendors of pirate cassettes by as many as five bodyguards and a phalanx of police officers.

But such shows of force merely reflect the passions aroused in a high stakes game. Israeli record companies estimate that they lose \$10 million a year to pirates.

Manor puts it this way: A legitimate tape may cost NIS 5 to produce and distribute. A store may pay NIS 6.50 for the cassette and sell it for NIS 9-10, including value-added tax. A simple pirating operation may be able to turn similar tapes out at a cost of between 50 agorot and NIS 1. The cassettes then are priced at a level that makes them irresistible to consumers and a cash cow for the pirates. "The profits are enormous," Manor said.

The quality of pirate audio cassettes is as erratic as the industry itself. One entrepreneur might string together some of Madonna's greatest hits on his cassette-to-cassette portable, while another might use more sophisticated recording equipment. At the most sophisticated level, pirates duplicate the packaging and labels of legitimate cassettes down to the tiniest details. Even Manor concedes he has trouble discerning the pirated version from the real thing.

Until Manor brought it under control, Tel Aviv's Central Bus Station was the focus of a thriving, above-ground pirate industry. Here hundreds of cassettes were stacked for public inspection. It was as if the area had "extra-territorial" status.

Buyers could pick through stacks of cassettes, taking their choice of the latest releases from U.S. rock stars like Bruce Springsteen and Michael Jackson, or Israeli musicians like Rita, Shimi Tavori and the Revue Brothers.

Although Manor and his raids have given the pirates pause, piracy hasn't been banished from the land, or even from the central bus station. Vendors still stock pirate cassettes under the table and enforcement problems remain in Netanya, in Jerusalem's Old City, particularly around the Damascus Gate, and in other cities.

Indeed far from fretting about prosecution, one bootlegger, who taped Ray Charles and Ricki Lee Jones during their Israel concert

tour, felt free to advertise the tape in the classified section of the *In Jerusalem* supplement.

If the pirates' increased sophistication makes it hard to discern the difference between pirate cassettes and the real thing, the march of technology is compounding the problem.

Japanese manufacturers have unveiled digital audiotape recorders that potentially would permit pirates to make copy after identical copies. Unlike conventional tapes or records, DAT recorders sample music at 48,000 times per second and transform the sound waves into numerical form. These recordings are expected to be superior to all but the most sophisticated conventional tape systems and could be copied and recopied without missing a beat.

Record producers are so afraid of the new technology's potential to flawlessly copy records and compact discs that they have managed to delay the worldwide launch of the devices.

CBS Records developed a spoiler system designed to foil those who would use DAT recorders to copy specially protected records or compact discs. The record company had hoped to convince the U.S. Congress to require that the spoiler system be included in DAT recorders. Although Congress has been attentive, the fate of the spoiler system is in doubt, since Sony, a leading manufacturer of digital audiotape recording equipment, acquired CBS Records in November.

For the moment, DAT recorders haven't arrived in Israel. But what happens when they do?

Manor shrugs and says: "We'll deal with this problem when it comes."



AUDIO EMANCIPATION. — A Tokyo shop assistant holds up a digital audio tape (DAT) cassette, about half the size of a normal tape. DAT technology gives better sound reproduction than any other technology on the market, posing new opportunities for music pirates and new headaches for the recording industry. (Reuters)

Mortgage policy said to be unfair

By DAVID ROSENBERG

Jerusalem Post Reporter

The Housing Ministry has created two classes of citizens with its mortgage policy, alleges one homeowner who sought to transfer his mortgage rights from a development area to Jerusalem.

The man purchased a flat in Beit Shemesh in 1982, financing it with a subsidized mortgage from the Housing Ministry. Two years later, he lost his job with a nearby oil exploration firm, but was shortly afterwards offered a position with a Jerusalem-based high technology company.

When his new employer insisted that he move to the capital, the man turned to the Housing Ministry to have his mortgage rights transferred to the flat he would buy there (mushcata g'ritrah). The ministry turned him down, noting that the mortgage he had in Beit Shemesh, a development town, was based on far better terms than he could get in Jerusalem.

The Ombudsman concluded that the obvious solution was to let the man transfer his mortgage to Jerusalem but revise its terms to fit those of a non-development area. The ministry agreed.

In a second complaint, a man whose 70-year-old mother immigrated to Israel from Romania did battle with the Housing Ministry over whether she was entitled to a rent subsidy. The woman had rented a flat in Rishon LeZion, where her son lived, and applied for aid in January 1985.

She received it, but the following January, when it came time to renew, the Housing Ministry rejected her application, alleging that the woman did not actually live in the flat. An investigator had visited the flat twice that year and didn't find her on either occasion; on a third visit, this time to the son's flat, he found the woman.

The son took the case to the Absorption Ministry, which investigated the matter and concluded that the woman did in fact live in the flat.

The Ombudsman also sent an investigator to visit the woman in her flat, but she wasn't there; she was subsequently found in her son's home. The woman said that she visits her son often, as well as her two married daughters in Rehovot, but the Ombudsman's investigator concluded that the woman's primary residence was indeed the flat for which she sought a rent subsidy. In response, the Housing Ministry was willing to concede that the woman was now living in her flat, but said it would only renew the subsidy if she returned the aid given her in 1985, when, it contends, she wasn't living in the flat.

The Ombudsman found that the ministry was unjustified both in withholding the aid and in demanding any money back, and said the woman should be compensated. The ministry complied.

More aid needed for medical care abroad

By JUDY SIEGEL

Jerusalem Post Reporter

The desperate plight of families who must beg and borrow to send relatives abroad for urgent medical treatment is highlighted by the Ombudsman Report's chapter on the Health Ministry.

He urges that the government find an immediate arrangement to help all those who cannot receive treatment in Israel so that lives can be saved and families can be spared the shame of begging publicly.

The case that brought the problem to the attention of the Ombudsman involved a man who asked the ministry's special committee on overseas treatment for aid for his sister. She suffered from a certain type of leukemia, called CML, and needed an urgent bone-marrow transplant abroad. The aid includes income tax deductions for travel expenses, per diem payments by the health fund and exemption from travel and foreign currency taxes for the patient and a companion.

The ministry committee rejected the brother's request, arguing that

bone-marrow transplants are performed in Israel. The man appealed, maintaining that not a single patient with his sister's specific disease had been treated successfully.

The Ombudsman noted that he had received a number of other public complaints against the ministry, from patients who needed surgery to remove cancerous growths in the brain, womb and prostate and to correct congenital heart defects.

In his investigation of the brother's complaints, the Ombudsman found that the committee's decision was unjustified, since Israeli doctors — although they knew how to administer the treatment — had no success with this condition, while abroad, the success rate reached 80 per cent. The Ombudsman stated that committee approval should be forthcoming not only if the treatment is not available in Israel, but also if it is not very successful here. While recognizing that if every patient went abroad for treatment, the standard of Israeli medicine would fall, the Ombudsman said patients whose lives were at stake should not have to sacrifice themselves for this ideal.

IDF to compensate doctor for negligent call-up

Jerusalem Post Reporter

A doctor who lost two months' pay because of a "faulty" reserve duty call-up is to be compensated and the liaison officer who called him up is to be put on trial, the Army Ombudsman reported.

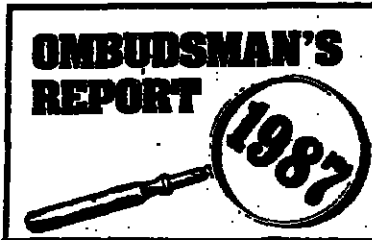
The liaison officer had called the doctor for a 47-day medical officers' course although the doctor did not

was to be tried for negligence and providing the Army Ombudsman with unsubstantiated information.

The Army Ombudsman also considered complaints by former career soldiers that they had been ordered to return part of a bonus. The bonus was paid in advance for serving in fiscal year 1986/87.

They said they did not know they had to serve until the end of the year to qualify for the full bonus and were surprised that upon quitting the army the authorities demanded repayment of part of the bonus.

In some cases, the IDF took the money in one lump sum, leaving at least one soldier with no money for that month. In other instances the IDF suggested the money be repaid in installments — at 19 per cent interest. The former career soldiers protested to the Army Ombudsman. He ruled that when the IDF paid the bonus, it did not state the conditions clearly enough. Therefore, the recipients were entitled to repay the money in interest-free installments.



Ex-Leumi manager sues to get full pension

Post Economic Staff

Yisrael Rauch, a former joint general manager of Bank Leumi, has taken his ex-employer to court in a bid to get his pension rights restored.

According to Leumi's defence sheet to the Tel Aviv Labour Court, the pension awarded Rauch at the time of his departure in 1982 was far higher than his last salary warranted. The latter came to 217,618 old shekels (in October 1982 shekels

worth approximately \$7,500), while the basis for calculating his salary was IS 333,333.

The pension was also linked to the Consumer Price Index for August 1982, instead of October 1982, Leumi said. Therefore the pension represented 14 per cent of his last salary, instead of the normal 70 per cent.

Rauch also received severance pay at the rate of 150 per cent of his last salary for each year's employ-

ment in the bank, as well as having his unused vacation allowance redeemed in cash and getting a special payment of IS 25,000, Leumi said.

The banks also noted that the total value of all the payments made to Rauch to date amounted to NIS 2.8 million (in October 1987 shekels), and the actuarial value of his current pension is NIS 3.6m.

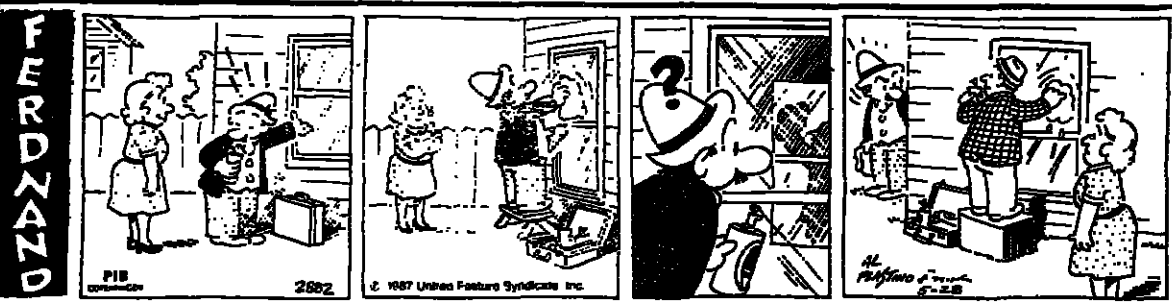
But it is the current pension payments, of NIS 9,730 monthly, that precipitated Rauch's lawsuit.

Leumi recently reduced pension payments to several retired senior executives, including Rauch, after receiving express instructions from the Bank of Israel to change some of the excessive wage and pension agreements approved by Leumi's previous board and management.

Rauch, however, is demanding that the bank immediately restore the full value of his pension, to the NIS 18,000 per month his original agreement gave him. Rauch is the only one of the former Leumi executives involved in the pension cuts to protest the bank management's moves.

Leumi described Rauch's original pension agreement as "illegal, immoral, not in the public interest and, therefore, inherently invalid."

Rauch is currently managing director of the state-owned Agricultural Bank, for which he receives a monthly salary of about NIS 5,000 and a company car.

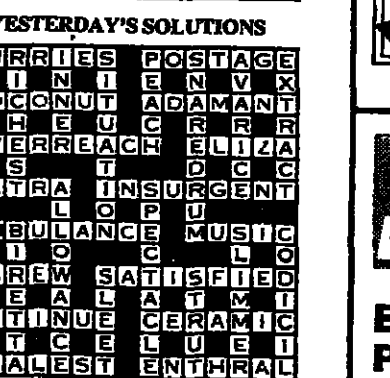
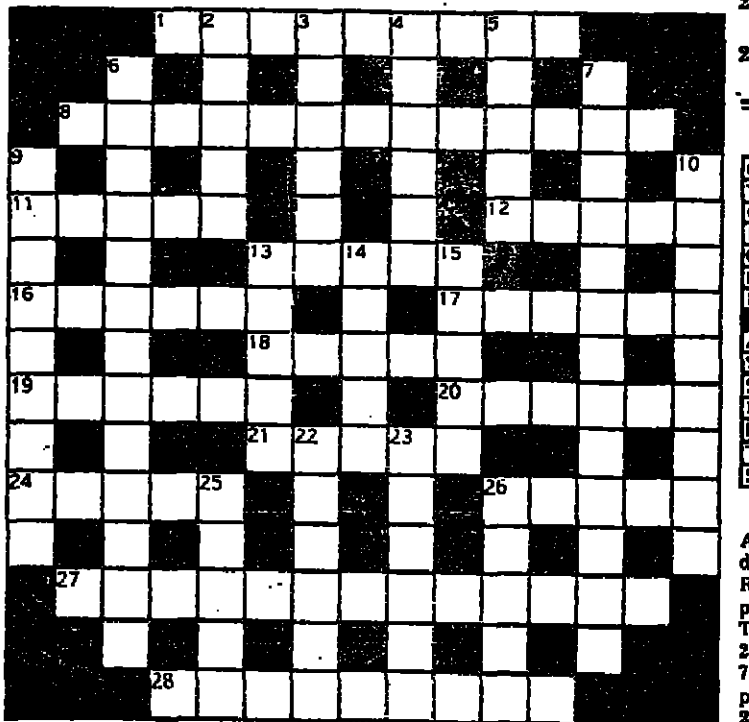


CROSSWORD

- ACROSS**
- Well-integrated team with a splendid conception (5,4)
 - Required to observe the rules of debate, as the diner did after studying the menu? (6,2,5)
 - Steals minced steak (5)
 - Commonwealth pechyderm? (5)
 - Punishment once given to workhouse inmates (5)
 - Sister's on the Channel Islands—ring for a messenger (6)
 - Eventually true to the best? (2,4)
 - Pungent vegetable I follow on and on (5)
 - Earthbound Marxist about to ring back? (6)
 - Best-selling novelist we see

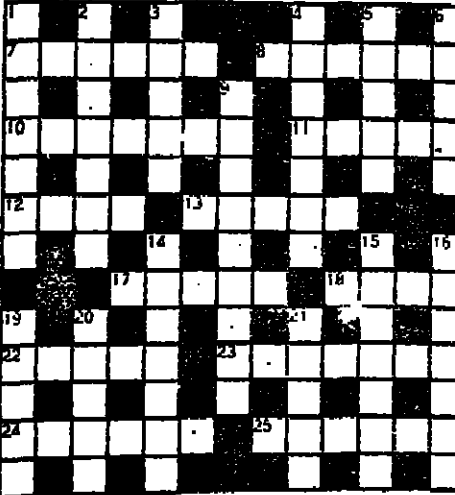
- about dividing an inherited characteristic (6)
- A writer in all honesty looks for it (5)
 - Damaged pew I'd gone over with a duster (5)
 - Not the same as the kernel or shell? (5)
 - A charge brought up in the world of commerce (5,5)
 - Positively having something to say (9)
- DOWN**
- SF author from whom Boswell sought help (5)
 - Accounts book with margin going from left to right (6)
 - Amazingly solid East German opera heroine (6)

- "Sole judge of truth, in endless—hurl'd" (Pope) (5)
- Assignment for a player who appears to say nothing (7,2,4)
- The company's complaints box? (8,5)
- Golfing centre in which West End stars may be seen (2,7)
- Fall in love, but become discouraged (4,5)
- High gallery containing nothing but merchandise (5)
- One of the Mitford sisters? (5)
- Language used in failing overseas colony (5)
- Hire TV out and do well (6)
- Pointed article for the medical profession to read (6)
- Reduces the charge for harbour facilities (5)
- Once turbulent expanse of water (5)



Yesterday's Quick Solution

ACROSS: 1 Whine, 4 Seller, 9 Slander, 10 Dignity, 11 Omen, 12 Minister, 13 Rip, 14 Free, 16 Even, 18 Mar, 20 Explores, 21 Spar, 24 Elate, 25 Connect, 26 Theory, 27 Yield. **DOWN:** 1 Wisdom, 2 Rate, 3 Eddy, 5 Endanger, 6 Legatee, 7 Retort, 8 Trump, 13 Reporter, 15 Replete, 17 Recent, 18 Mercy, 19 Orated, 22 Piece, 23 Only.



QUICK CROSSWORD

- ACROSS**
- Russian plain (6)
 - Closer (5)
 - Ignorant (7)
 - Drying cloth (5)
 - Always (4)
 - Lenn (5)
 - Linger (5)
 - Countenance (4)
 - Blemish (5)
 - Quiver (7)
 - Allotted share (6)
 - Spanish rice dish (6)

- DOWN**
- Confident (7)
 - Threatens (7)
 - Small fish (5)
 - Dare (7)
 - Tanned (5)
 - Amusing (5)
 - Prantic (9)
 - Fortified projection (7)
 - Frolic (7)
 - Widespread (7)
 - Begin (5)
 - Song (5)
 - Exclude (5)

The Max and Eva Apple Trust Fund has granted four scholarships totalling NIS 3,000.

- Two grants to students at Bezael Art School, Jerusalem;
- Two grants to students at Bar Ilan University.

The Max and Eva Apple Shalom Fund has granted two scholarships, in December 1987, totalling NIS 4,000, to members of ethnic minorities in Israel

- One grant to a student of Political Science, Haifa University;
- One grant to a student of the Medical School "Hadassah", Ein Karem, Jerusalem.

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Re'ama-Kfar Sava: Kupat Holim Hod Hasharon, Harshut, Hod Hasharon.

Netanya: Carmel, Kiryat Nordau command centre, 51774.

Kiryat Arca: Merkaz Menachem, 29 Sderot Yerushalayim, Kiryat Yam Alef, 759441.

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Dimona 781111	Petah Tikva *923111
Elit 72333	Rahovot *451333
Haifa *512233	Rishon LeZion *4433
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Hatzer 938333	Tel Aviv *546011
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The National Poison Control Centre at Rambam Hospital, phone 04 529203, for emergency calls, 24 hours a day, for information in case of poisoning.

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NIS 4.5 billion deficit seen for Histadrut pension funds

By AVI TEMKIN

Post Economic Reporter

The combined actuarial deficit of the six Histadrut-affiliated pension funds amounts to some NIS 4.5 billion, Histadrut actuary Ya'acov Antler warned yesterday. The deficit, which measures the funds' total forecast pension payments to members against their expected income from contributions and interest, amounted to about 12.2 per cent of their total obligations, he added.

The figures released by Antler and Dov Peleg, the chairman of the social security division at the labour federation, showed that for three of the pension funds - the agriculture and building workers', and the Central Pension Fund - the deficit was acute.

In the case of central and agriculture pension funds, the payments currently being made to members is larger than the contributions they receive, so that the funds' accumulated capital has risen only due to interest income. In the case of the construction workers' pension fund, which represents 3 per cent of all pensioners, payments have begun eating into the fund's capital itself.

and if present trends continue it will be depleted in 14 years.

Peleg and Antler stressed that during 1988 all the six pension funds would be merged, which would aid the smaller pension funds. The largest fund, Mivtachim, was in much better shape, they said, and the same was true for Mafketet.

But, according to Antler's figures, starting in 1998 even the single merged fund will be forced to spend all its interest income to make up for the gap between payments and contributions. If current trends continue, in 27 years even that won't cover the gap, and the funds' commitments will begin eating into its capital base.

Antler noted that the figures were built on the assumption that every year 30,000 new members would join the funds and that real wages would go up 3 per cent. Peleg added, as well, that the combined contributions of employers and employees would be rising from 16 to 17.5 per cent from April, as agreed with the Treasury last January.

Peleg admitted that Mafketet was still adamant in its refusal to go along with the merger plans, but he expressed hope that the fund would eventually give its consent for the proposed union.

He added that the funds' condition was far from being as alarming as the media had pictured it in the last several months. Peleg said the pension funds would never give their consent to a weakening of members' rights.

He accused the Treasury of producing what he termed "biased" reports on the condition of the pension funds. The Treasury was seeking to reduce the level of commitments to the pension system, he said.

He also noted that the Histadrut was still very much opposed to including the pension funds in the government's ongoing reform of the capital markets. The labour federation is still demanding that the Treasury let the funds invest 93 per cent of their resources in special non-tradable government bonds, yielding 6.3 per cent a year.

Peleg said the Histadrut was giving priority to the inclusion of a clause ensuring this in any possible package deal agreed signed with the government.

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Dollar, Wall Street jitters send London shares lower

LONDON (Reuters) - New selling hit the dollar yesterday and alarm over a decline to its lowest levels since World War II prompted a dramatic fall on London's stock exchange. Wall Street shares were also down.

In the early afternoon in Europe, the dollar touched a new quoted low of 1.5865 Deutschmarks. It traded around 125 yen, just above a historic low on Monday of 122.75. Only intervention to buy dollars by central

banks braked the slide, dealers said. The Financial Times-Stock Exchange 100 share index crashed 78.4 points, or 4.3 per cent, from its pre-Christmas Thursday close to 1712.7 before rallying a little. At 1530 GMT, it was down 65.7 at 1777.4. Dealers cited Monday's sharp decline on Wall Street, followed by another off day yesterday, and the weak dollar as their reasons for marking prices lower.

"Until we get something solid

from the U.S. to support the dollar we could be prone to this sort of fall for quite some time into the new year," one said.

The dollar's weakness threatens the earnings of firms that exports to the U.S.

The downturn yesterday came in the wake of a three-week rally that saw the FTSE 100 within nine points

of 1800 at the close last Thursday. The index was last at 1800 just after the October slump.

Despite the earlier downturn, dealers detected some light bargain hunting at the lows, although they said without a lasting move to support the dollar, many are taking a bearish view of the prospects for British shares in the new year.

Gadot, Chemical cartel wins approval of ministry

A merger between Gadot Ltd. and Chemical Ltd. was approved last week by the Industry and Trade Ministry, despite a flailing by its own officials earlier that the two companies operate a cartel.

The ministry accepted the recommendation of Ze'ev Galmor, its official in charge of monitoring restrictive business practices, to approve the deal, saying that the cartel would work to the public's benefit by reducing costs and therefore prices.

To ensure this, the ministry decided to put the newly merged companies' prices for storage and unloading under price supervision.

The cartel was established last year when Gadot and Chemical, which had been fierce competitors in the chemicals market, agreed to

combine their operations under a single company, Gadot Masofim. Under the arrangement, described by the firms as a merger, Chemical, a unit of Chai Group, gave its equipment to Gadot and, in return, received half the latter's shares.

After Galmor threatened to open a criminal investigation of the arrangement, the two companies agreed to bring the issue before the ministry's Restrictive Business Practices Council in exchange for dropping the investigation.

The council found that the companies had indeed established a cartel, but concluded the public would benefit and thus approved it. Galmor noted that the decision had wide-reaching implications because it established that share transfers could be interpreted as a means of forming cartels, both legal and illegal.

President lauds role of farmer

By JEFF BLACK

Agriculture must not be judged solely in pure economic terms but rather by its values as well, President Herzog said last night at a reception to honour 22 outstanding farmers and agronomists, as well as to celebrate the 30th anniversary of Agrexco.

"Agriculture is a deep-rooted way of life, full of meaning," the president said.

In a departure from the original text of his speech, Herzog also stressed the contribution of Arab farmers to Israeli agriculture, both

within the Green Line and beyond. The president added that Israeli agricultural exports are not only a source of income for the economy but also, through the high quality of the produce, act as ambassadors for the good name of the country.

Over the past 30 years, Agrexco has exported around \$2.5 billion of produce and the 1986/7 export season saw record sales of \$275 million. Last year's exports included around 30 types of vegetables, more than 20 different varieties of fruit as well as fish, biological produce and other goods.

Boost for Luz

Luz International Ltd., the American parent company of Luz Industry Israel, said Monday that legislation recently approved by President Reagan would enable it to reduce its capital costs.

The new law in the U.S. raises the ceiling on the capacity of solar power plants to 80 megawatts from a previous maximum of 30 megawatts.

Israel Kroizer, president of Luz's Israeli subsidiary, said the legislation "will allow us, through economies of scale, to lower our capital investment costs by 25 per cent."

CPI to be measured by new market basket

The Central Bureau of Statistics said yesterday it would begin calculating the Consumer Price Index in January on the basis of a new basket of goods and services. In addition, the baseline for the CPI will be reset at 100.

The first monthly index to be calculated using the new formula will

January's, which will be published on February 15.

The new basket is based on the results of a two-year survey of a typical family's expenditures. It includes a host of new products and services, such as personal computers, video cassette rentals and car appliances.

DEMJANJUK ON TRIAL

(Continued from Page Two)

of the professor's testimony and that he had been absent during the later testimony of documents expert William Flynn.

Demjanjuk: "Maybe I am mixing up Wagenaar's and Flynn's testimony."

Asked where he thought Sheftel had got the idea that the photo dated from Landshtet in 1946, Demjanjuk said: "Maybe my family told him." Following this reply Shaked wanted to know why he had not corrected his lawyer on this mistake. The answer was: "The police took me away. I had no time."

Shaked then told the court that the photo could not date from 1946, since the shoulder patch on Demjanjuk's uniform clearly showed the letters IRO, which stand for the International Refugee Organization - and that body was not created until December 1946.

Demjanjuk: "IRO was not at Landshtet, there it was Unrra." Shaked now brought up the fact that, according to Sheftel, Demjanjuk had been a policeman for six months, while the accused now said he only served for several weeks.

Demjanjuk: "I don't know why Sheftel said that, it was not from me."

When Shaked summed up all the inconsistencies in Demjanjuk's replies, the accused had this to say: "It is hard to answer you. Your questions are too long and complicated."

Gill then started the redirect questioning of his client, but was constantly blocked by objections from Shaked.

Finally Gill said he wanted to make an unusual application. "Allow Mr. Sheftel to testify on what really happened. He can do this ei-

ther in chambers or in open court. I'm asking for this in the interest of justice."

Said court president Dov Levin: "There is no such procedure. All this is being blown up out of proportion. We understand your predicament and suggest you withdraw your proposal."

But now Sheftel intervened: "Either Demjanjuk lied to me or I gave Prof. Wagenaar facts that I knew to be wrong. Both options are unacceptable to me. Therefore I want the matter cleared up."

Asked Levin: "You want to testify, even if that means the end of your role as defence counsel?" Sheftel: "I want to be examined."

Levin then asked Shaked whether he had a compromise solution to suggest.

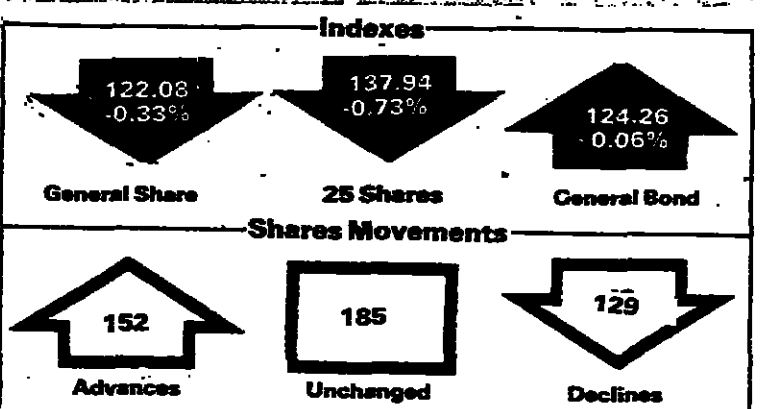
Shaked: "I don't see the urgency of the matter. Sheftel may be taking a hasty step. Let's all think it over."

The court agreed and postponed discussion of the matter.

At the beginning of the session the court had briefly heard the testimony of an Israeli, Yitzhak Almagor, who had been in a Soviet camp in 1946. He said he had heard two Jewish fellow prisoners there say that they had been interpreters in the Vlasov army. This testimony was apparently designed to support earlier statements by Demjanjuk that he had also heard of Jewish soldiers in that army.

The testimony was apparently not important enough to warrant cross-examination by the prosecution.

With Demjanjuk's testimony on the photo of him in police uniform out of the way, the court adjourned the proceedings until January 25, when summation by the prosecution is due to begin.



Name	Price	Volume	% change
Commercial Banks			
Bank Leumi	23500	8	-0.1
Bank Hapoalim	17500	10	-0.1
Bank Mizrahi	15500	81	-0.1
Bank Discount	8255	1041	-0.1
Commercial Banks (cont.)			
Bank Leumi	102000	446	-
Bank Hapoalim	75340	25	-0.8
Bank Mizrahi	42350	461	-
Bank Discount	69400	1098	-0.8
Bank Leumi	17500	6	-0.8
Bank Hapoalim	44050	2422	-0.7
Bank Mizrahi	58640	7	-0.3
Mortgage Banks & Finance			
Bank Leumi	8800	12	+1.5
Bank Hapoalim	2344	420	-0.4
Bank Mizrahi	3710	40	+1.4
Bank Discount	23750	21	+1.1
Bank Leumi	8100	-	+1.2
Bank Hapoalim	12700	30	+0.8
Bank Mizrahi	27050	30	+3.0
Insurance			
Ararat 0.5	1510	2514	+1.3
Phoenix 0.1	780	300	+3.5
Hamishim 1.0	5330	-	-
Hamishim 1.0	1380	100	-2.0
Hamishim 1.0	340	2280	+1.8
Hamishim 1.0	1080	430	+1.0
Hamishim 1.0	4500	3	-
Trade & Services			
Imregma 1.0	840	1820	+2.9
Imregma 1.0	770	3529	+1.9
Imregma 1.0	3710	40	+1.4
Imregma 1.0	11300	433	+0.9
Imregma 1.0	737	484	+1.0
Imregma 1.0	1057	1057	-
Imregma 1.0	1735	103	-
Imregma 1.0	7556	25	-
Imregma 1.0	2508	303	-
Imregma 1.0	253	6125	-
Imregma 1.0	11305	8.0	-5.0
Imregma 1.0	867	3594	-
Real Estate, Building and			
Imregma 1.0	330	3100	-0.3
Imregma 1.0	44500	40	+1.1
Imregma 1.0	2053	30	+0.5
Imregma 1.0	6520	108	+1.3
Imregma 1.0	308	9412	-1.3
Imregma 1.0	4480	614	+0.8
Imregma 1.0	18700	163	-
Imregma 1.0	340	8200	-
Imregma 1.0	8650	298	-
Imregma 1.0	1790	230	+2.9
Industrials			
Imregma 1.0	3830	124	-2.0
Imregma 1.0	32350	3	+1.3

Statistics

Stock Indices

General Share	124.04	-0.12
Non-ferrous	121.36	-0.79
Armaments	121.36	-0.49
Mortgage	141.71	-0.25
French franc	121.36	-0.25
Insurance	93.82	-0.70
Commerce & Service	121.36	-0.41
Real Estate	121.36	-0.08
Industrials	117.70	-0.26
Food & Tobacco	100.56	-0.13
Tobacco	99.84	-0.57
Metals	107.78	-0.45
Chemicals	129.51	-0.51
Industrial	121.36	-0.44
Investment	140.27	-0.30
Oil Exploration	121.36	-0.89
Paralel List	85.21	-0.40

Bond Indices

Index-linked Bonds	124.69	-0.05
Fully indexed	124.69	-0.04
Paralel List	121.36	-0.08
Foreign currency	121.36	-0.15
FC denominated	121.36	-0.08
FC indexed	121.36	-0.26
Short-term 0.5 yrs	121.36	-0.10
Short-term 1.5 yrs	121.36	-0.05
Medium-term 5 yrs	121.36	-0.07
Long-term 7 yrs	121.36	-0.15

Turnovers

Total Shares	1,119,700
Non-arrangement	1,119,700
Arrangement	1,119,700
Bonds	8,082,500
Treasury Bills	32,345,990

Share Movements

Advances	152
Unchanged	185
Declines	129

Bond Market Trends

Index-linked	124.69	-0.05
3% fully indexed	124.69	-0.04
4.25% fully indexed	124.69	-0.08
5% fully indexed	124.69	-0.10
Double indexed	124.69	-0.05
FC denominated	124.69	-0.08
T-bills	124.69	-0.15

Arrangement Yields

DBI	9.5%
DBI	10.2%
DBI	10.5%
DBI	10.8%
DBI	11.2%
DBI	11.5%
DBI	11.8%
DBI	12.1%
DBI	12.4%
DBI	12.7%
DBI	13.0%
DBI	13.3%
DBI	13.6%
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DBI	38.8%
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DBI	39.4%
DBI	39.7%
DBI	40.0%
DBI	40.3%</

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The missing Israel

NEIGHBOURS at peace with one another are not required to avoid all dispute, only to settle such disputes as do arise between them by pacific means. Peaceful neighbours are also required to accept, and not just tacitly, each other's legitimate existence. Oddly, it seems that this elementary principle is not accepted by all Egyptian government ministries as applying to Egypt's present relationship with Israel.

The re-delegitimation of Israel is of course a principal demand of the Opposition, on both the left and the right, in Egypt. Egyptian Oppositionists still decry the Camp David accords and the peace treaty with Israel, and some of them are even pressing the government to revoke its obligations under both documents. It is not surprising, therefore, that the same Oppositionists were outraged recently to discover the name of Israel rather than Palestine appearing on new coloured wall maps of the Middle East and atlases and globes used by primary and secondary schools throughout Egypt.

The maps, atlases and globes had been a gift of Unicef, the UN children's fund, to the Egyptian state school system. Opposition newspapers who support, and are supported by, the PLO, launched a campaign to undo the scandalous novelty, of which they had been apprised by teachers in the schools affected by it. The schools were also contacted directly by Opposition journalists, with strongly-worded pleas for prompt corrective action.

The desired action was not taken promptly. According to reports, more than a few Egyptian headmasters and teachers objected that, since Egypt had made peace with Israel, and there was an Israeli embassy in the heart of Cairo, there was no good reason to deny Israel's existence by removing its name from Egyptian school maps. But the argumentative headmasters and teachers received but the faintest sort of help from the Egyptian Ministry of Education.

Instead of striking at Opposition critics by making an issue of principle of the recognition of Israel via school maps, the ministry put on a disgraceful show of self-defence. The maps were all Unicef's fault, the ministry explained, and Egyptian officials had had no part in editing them.

Pressure by the Opposition kept mounting, however, and in the end the newly appointed education minister gave in. The offensive maps, atlases and globes were all junked, to make sure that Egyptian schoolchildren did not mistake Palestine, or even part of it, for Israel. Egypt was saved.

The tale of the Unicef maps would have been cause for a stiff protest even if Egypt had not actually signed a peace treaty with this country; just as Jordan TV's display, as background for its Arabic-language news, of a map of an alleged Jordan stretching all the way from the Iraqi border to the Mediterranean, rates a formal remonstrance. But Egypt, unlike Jordan, did sign a peace treaty with Israel, in which it, at the very least, acknowledged Israel's formal existence.

Are we to understand that there is no one in Cairo to let the Egyptian minister of education in on this interesting new development? Or, perhaps, that the minister's policy reflects Egypt's official new line on Israel?

SHAMIR

(Continued from Page One)

Shamir expressed regret for the recent killings in the territories, saying that Israel deplores the "unnecessary and useless" bloodshed sparked by terror organizations. He said that recent events had not changed his opposition to an international peace conference, since he does not think that such a conference would help peace in our area.

"Violence is the enemy of peace. Peace you can achieve only through negotiations," he said, adding that the State of Israel had tabled many peace proposals which "went unanswered."

Village notable Subhi Abu Ghosh told Shamir, "We support all initiatives that might bring about peace," without referring specifically to an international conference. He urged the prime minister to do "everything he could to advance the peace process."

Abu Ghosh also presented Shamir with a list of the town's municipal

problems, including inadequate water and sewerage systems, and overcrowded schools.

Shamir responded that, "happily, the problems are not political problems."

He said his aides would do "all in their power" to see to it that the residents of Abu Ghosh felt the benefits of Jewish-Arab cooperation "practically, in a day-to-day fashion."

During the tour an aide to Ronni Milo, deputy minister in charge of Arab affairs, noted that this year's final allocation in a plan to upgrade Druse and Circassian municipal services had been approved by the Knesset Finance Committee yesterday.

The committee approved NIS 3.5 million for development and education. The government previously this year allocated NIS 18 million to bring the communities up to the standard of Jewish development towns.

REJECTS

(Continued from Page One)

Israeli judicial process.

Binyamin Ben-Eliezer (Alignment-Yahad): "If we carry out deportations, they have to be selective and on an individual basis."

David Magen (Likud): "Rabin should send fewer soldiers to the areas, and more Jewish settlers."

Shevah Weiss (Alignment): "Since we'll have to move out of the areas in the end, it would be best for us to do so on the basis of a political settlement."

Elazar Granot (Mapam): "I support the American view that deportations are not in accordance with international law."

Benny Shalita (Likud): "The government should put legal experts to work overtime."

ARMY DENIES

(Continued from Page Two)

The judge ordered this to be stopped.

Seventeen defendants appeared before the bench at Hebron, all pleading not guilty and all being remanded in custody until their trials. Some of them appeared to be in their teens. They were pale and nervous and looked as if they needed sleep. But none showed signs of ill-treatment.

Meanwhile, at Nablus military court, where the hearings were observed by U.S. consular and embassy officials, eight Palestinians were convicted of offences connected with the riots and received sentences ranging from one month to eight months in prison, as well as suspended sentences and fines.

THE RELATIVELY large number of casualties incurred while putting down the disturbances in the territories in the middle of this month undoubtedly caused a great deal of political damage to Israel internationally.

That fact, after 20 years of occupation of the territories, raises the question of why the security forces have so far failed to develop more effective and less lethal means of maintaining public order amid an obviously hostile population. For it was the magnitude of the casualties and the television scenes of Israeli soldiers armed with firearms confronting stone-throwing Palestinian youngsters which did the most damage - and not the fact of the disturbances themselves.

The first answer to the question posed is that, in all fairness, some progress has been made. Troops have been issued with rubber bullets and tear gas grenades. And only two months before the disturbances, OC Central Command Aluf Amram Mitzna introduced a Barrett 22-calibre sniper rifle, to replace the M-16 and Galil rifles with more lethal higher-muzzle velocities, with the express intention of reducing fatalities in such confrontations to a minimum.

I am certainly no expert in riot control methods and equipment, but even a layman like myself can conclude that the introduction of this equipment proved unequal to the job. Much worse than that is the equally obvious fact that the units detailed to deal with the Palestinian rioters were clearly untrained for the task, which requires a mixture of hard-nosed resolve and judicious restraint.

At that level, the main problem, it seems, has been the policy of using a very heavy component of relatively raw recruits and of equally untrained 40-year-old reservists to do the job of policing the occupied territories and of putting down disturbances. Such troops, who are untrained in sophisticated methods of riot control, tend to react too slowly to scotch the boiling up of disturbances in their formative stages, and they then either underreact or overreact with unintended lethal results.

THE MAIN answer to the question of why we were unprepared to deal with the latest spate of disturbances in a more sophisticated manner, that would have resulted in fewer casual-

ties among the Palestinians and in less political damage to Israel, lies in the area of politics. It is not so much the fault of the military.

In this democratic country, the army takes orders from political overlords. And no one in the political echelons that determine occupation policy and oversee its implementation was that interested in devoting much time, energy or ingenuity to the actual conduct of the occupation - not as long as the occupied Palestinians were not raising the roof.

The problem is that nearly all of our leaders, who should know better, have fallen victim to the malady that has afflicted us as a society ever since the issue of the territories became such a central and divisive one in the public arena. The public debate has come to be dominated - nearly exclusively during this past decade and more - by the extremes rather than by the pragmatic centre.

If one is to judge from the Knesset, the media, and the Friday night gripe sessions in hundreds of thousands of Israeli homes, over nine-tenths of the arguments are dominated by either of the extremes. On the one hand are those who insist on total annexation of the territories (and, with the exception of the racist Kahanists, have no idea of what to do with those additional 1.5 million Arabs), and on the other hand are those who shout for immediate withdrawal from all the territories (and have no sane suggestions for what to do about the threats to our security that would ensue).

The public debate rages in absolute terms, with each side scoring

down that which we have built? Can we not sense history repeating a 2,000-year-old story of self-destruction?

On the other hand, for 40 years we, as an emergent people, wandered in the desert, yearning for the Promised Land. At the end of that time came a turning point - the arrival in the land of milk and honey.

Can this not be our inheritance in this 40th year of the modern State of Israel? A turning point, a time for change or, more importantly, a belief that change is possible.

DO WE HONESTLY want civil strife? Do we want thus to promote hatred between secular and practising Jews? Do Reform, Conservative

READERS' LETTERS

THE PRICE OF OCCUPATION

To the Editor of The Jerusalem Post
Sir, - As a supporter of Israel, I have for many years provided information about Israel to newspapers, student groups and religious or civic groups in my home state of Michigan.

As always, the American media have distorted the recent events here. I have begun an effort to help Israel's image by writing letters to American newspapers.

If Israelis will write to newspapers in other countries, the impact will be far greater than if the Israeli government tries to do so. People pay very little attention to official pronouncements from governments. People do read letters to the editor in their hometown papers.

I suggest that Israelis write to all types of foreign papers, the small weeklies as well as the great international daily papers. If you don't know the address of the foreign paper, you can send your letter to a friend or relative abroad requesting that he or she forward it. Also, encourage your friends and relatives living abroad to write to their local media.

HAIFA. DAVID ROSE

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Wanted: A pragmatic and passionate centre

Yosef Goell

I have been in such situations while on reserve duty years ago, and I remember that in confronting mobs, there was always the very strong element of nerves among the troops who had never been trained to handle such a situation. Armed men and fear make a lethal combination, for when armed men fear for their lives, they tend to shoot.

Several weeks ago, I asked an officer involved in the occupation why the army had never developed a highly-trained professional corps to replace the haphazard mobilization of units of relatively new recruits and civilian reservists in the territories. The answer I got was: "God forbid, no. The reason casualties have been so low in the policing of the territories over these many years is that we have not had a professional occupation force. There is a very real risk that such permanent professional units will get jaded, hard-hearted and even trigger-happy. The men in the units we do use do occupation duty for relatively short stints, which prevents them from becoming brutalized by that duty."

That argument may or may not have held water in the past. Following our experience in these recent disturbances, I would think that the argument should now be clearly settled in favour of setting up permanent, highly-trained occupation units, and for devoting part of the ingenuity that has gone into defence R&D to developing sophisticated and relatively non-lethal riot control methods and equipment for such units.

THE MAIN answer to the question of why we were unprepared to deal with the latest spate of disturbances in a more sophisticated manner, that would have resulted in fewer casual-

ties among the Palestinians and in less political damage to Israel, lies in the area of politics. It is not so much the fault of the military.

In this democratic country, the army takes orders from political overlords. And no one in the political echelons that determine occupation policy and oversee its implementation was that interested in devoting much time, energy or ingenuity to the actual conduct of the occupation - not as long as the occupied Palestinians were not raising the roof.

The problem is that nearly all of our leaders, who should know better, have fallen victim to the malady that has afflicted us as a society ever since the issue of the territories became such a central and divisive one in the public arena. The public debate has come to be dominated - nearly exclusively during this past decade and more - by the extremes rather than by the pragmatic centre.

If one is to judge from the Knesset, the media, and the Friday night gripe sessions in hundreds of thousands of Israeli homes, over nine-tenths of the arguments are dominated by either of the extremes. On the one hand are those who insist on total annexation of the territories (and, with the exception of the racist Kahanists, have no idea of what to do with those additional 1.5 million Arabs), and on the other hand are those who shout for immediate withdrawal from all the territories (and have no sane suggestions for what to do about the threats to our security that would ensue).

The public debate rages in absolute terms, with each side scoring

excellent points in attacking the weaknesses of the other side without admitting the innate weakness of their own side. One would think that at least realistic statesmen would know better, but many of our top leaders have themselves succumbed to the din created by the radical extremes on either side.

What is badly needed is the return of the dominant element of the public arena and of our top leadership to the pragmatic centre or, as a friend with whom I was mulling over this problem added, "What we need is a passionate centre."

At first sound, "passionate" and "pragmatic centre" would seem to be a contradiction in terms. But that is exactly what we need: a public mood of passionate devotion to a vision of the future that is both desirable and possible, as well as to a very realistic reading of the facts on the ground.

And the facts on the ground, 20 years after the Six Day War, are that we can neither look forward to annexing all of the territories, nor can we afford to withdraw from them in safety. Since this means that the occupation will have to continue into an indeterminate future, it is essential that we focus our attention much more on how to manage such a less than perfect situation, than on the opposing, totally unrealistic, utopias propounded by the annexationists or the instant "withdrawalists."

In the military sphere, that would mean placing much greater emphasis on setting up a highly-trained occupation force. The Border Police already provides a nucleus for such a force. What it needs is a much better officer corps to control its troops and prevent such excesses as occurred in the Balata refugee camp at the outset of the recent rioting.

ANOTHER question that needs an urgent answer concerns whether the minister of defence and his ministry are the ideal bodies to supervise Israel's continued presence in the territories.

There is a strong case to be made for the argument that a minister of defence who is primarily concerned with ensuring Israel's security against the major threat from the Arab armies cannot be expected to devote most of his attention to the territories. What transpired here in the initially ineffective dealing with the disturbances during the absence abroad of Minister of Defence Rabin, and the turnaround in the handling of the riots and their rapid quelling following his return, is a good case in point.

Moshe Dayan was the first and last minister of defence who paid much attention to the territories. There are those who claim that because he devoted so much attention to that problem area, he neglected to pay sufficient attention to the army itself, a neglect that proved tragically costly in the opening days of the Yom Kippur War.

If one assumes that there will be additional attempts on the part of elements among the Palestinians to repeat these disturbances, and even to intensify them, it would seem a reasonable assertion that one senior minister cannot devote the needed attention to both fields. What is needed is a special, separate framework at the top to set occupation policy and oversee all aspects of its implementation.

In seeking to restore needed emphasis to the pragmatic centre and to turn back from the divisive dominance of the extremes over our lives, we should take a page out of the tragic history of the Palestinian national movement. It is because their leaders have insisted for the past 50 years on getting 100 per cent of this disputed country that they have ended up with nothing. It would be tragic, indeed, if in our stupidity and in our readiness to succumb to our own extremists, we ended up emulating our enemies at their most obtuse.

The writer is a member of The Jerusalem Post editorial staff.

The challenge - a new and living Zionism

Aryeh Geiger

Will the secular develop a sensitivity toward the practising Jew, based on a knowledge of and respect for our national heritage?

Will observant Jews find and practise Torah with love, and explore methods other than coercion of advocating their faith?

Can we retain our unique sovereignty while searching for alternatives together with our Arab citizens and neighbours? Will our Arab citizens and those in Judea and Samaria take the risk of seeking peaceful co-existence?

There are so many more questions, so many more dreams!

BUT WHAT IS this 40th year celebration if not a time for dreaming? If not now, when?

To a large extent, the Zionism which created the State of Israel died two generations ago. We must create a new and living Zionism, practise it, believe in it and teach it. Indeed, this is the challenge before each one of us, the national priority. On the doorstep of every member of the Knesset and every person in a leadership position there should be

and Orthodox Jews have to focus on their respective differences? Do men have to continue, either purposefully or unintentionally, to subjugate women both in secular and religious circles?

Will our leadership ever recognize the hypocrisy of claiming "national unity" when they shower us with their egocentric pettiness at the expense of the national good?

Will ultra-Orthodox Jews stop playing baseball with stones on Shabbat, preaching that they are their brothers' keepers, while shedding blood and spreading hate?

JANET C. ABRAMSON
Jerusalem.

INFORMATION CAMPAIGN

As with all public-relations campaigns, you should follow the following rules: keep the letter brief, keep it simple, use your own words, and always close with a direct suggestion of action that readers should take, such as, "write to this address," or "send donations to this organization."

JANET C. ABRAMSON
Jerusalem.

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